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## TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

901 R.S. Gass Boulevard  
Nashville, Tennessee 37216-2639  
(615) 744-4000  
Facsimile (615) 744-4500  
TDD (615) 744-4001



**DAVID B. RAUSCH**  
Director

Daniel A Horwitz, Esq.  
daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com

*Via Email Only*

March 16, 2021

Dear Mr. Horwitz,

This letter is in reference to your public records request related to Joshua Garton. Please be informed we are in receipt of payment; as such, please find enclosed the final installment of records responsive to your request. Redactions were made pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §10-7-504(a)(2)(A).

As mentioned in our previous communications, pursuant to the above-mentioned statute, "All investigative records of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation...shall be treated as confidential and shall not be open to inspection by members of the public. The information contained in such records shall be disclosed to the public only in compliance with a subpoena or an order of a court of record." As such, investigative records are not considered public record and are not included herein. Additionally, records considered confidential pursuant to attorney-client privilege are also not included.

This is the final installment of records. Therefore, your public records request is considered fulfilled.

Sincerely,

*Heather Thorne*

Heather Thorne  
Professional Standards Unit  
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation





State of Tennessee

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

*"That guilt shall not escape nor innocence suffer"*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JANUARY 22, 2021

CONTACT: JOSH DEVINE  
PHONE: (615) 744-4295 (OFFICE)  
EMAIL: TBI.MEDIA@TN.GOV

### LYLES MAN ARRESTED, CHARGED WITH DOCTORING & POSTING HARASSING PHOTOGRAPH

**DICKSON COUNTY** – Special Agents from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, working alongside investigators from the Dickson Police Department, have arrested and charged a Lyles man accused of manufacturing and disseminating a harassing photograph on social media.

At the request of 23<sup>rd</sup> District Attorney General Ray Crouch, TBI Agents began investigating the origin of a photograph that depicted individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer, Sgt. Daniel Baker of the Dickson County Sheriff's Office. Agents subsequently visited Baker's gravesite this morning and determined the photograph was digitally manufactured. Further investigative efforts led to the identification of Joshua Andrew Garton (DOB 1-31-92) as the individual who manufactured the image and distributed it on social media.

This afternoon, Agents arrested Garton and charged him with one count of Harassment and booked him into the Dickson County Jail where, because of this charge and other, unrelated legal issues, he was being held on a \$76,000 bond.



###

#### About TBI

Since 1980, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has served as the state's independent, lead law enforcement agency. Every day, focused on the agency's core values of truth, bravery, and integrity, the TBI's approximately 600 employees provide a variety of advanced criminal and drug investigative, forensic, and criminal justice services to assist local, state, and federal law enforcement partners, to fulfill the agency's promise, *"That Guilt Shall Not Escape Nor Innocence Suffer."* Learn more about the TBI online at [tn.gov/tbi](http://tn.gov/tbi), and connect with the agency on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram at [@TBIInvestigation](https://www.instagram.com/tbinvestigation).

## Melany Martin

---

**From:** Leslie Earhart  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 23, 2021 5:31 PM  
**To:** David Rausch; Josh DeVine; Brad Nealon; Joshua J. Melton; Russ Winkler  
**Cc:** Susan Niland; Keli McAlister  
**Subject:** FYI - Dickson County case

Good evening,

I'm passing this article along in case you havent seen it.  
I just wanted to make you aware.

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/lawandcrime.com/crazy/constitutionally-illiterate-tennessee-authorities-arrest-man-for-posting-an-anti-police-meme-on-social-media/amp/>

Take care,  
Leslie



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**Last-Minute Trump Appointee Sues Joe Biden Claiming the President Has No Authority to Fire Him**

# 'Constitutionally Illiterate' Tennessee Authorities Arrest Man For 'Posting an Anti-Police Meme' on Social Media

JERRY LAMBE | Jan 23rd, 2021, 5:07 pm | 91

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Joshua Andrew Garton

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posting a fake photograph on social media depicting two men urinating on the grave of a police officer who was tragically killed on duty in 2018. The arrest, and subsequent bond demanded for his release, outraged attorneys who were quick to point out that despite being horrifically insensitive, the doctored photo in question is undoubtedly protected under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

"This morning, District Attorney General **Ray Crouch** requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer," the TBI tweeted Friday.

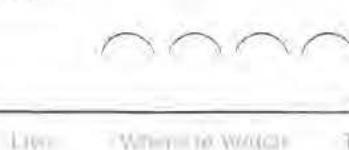
"Agents visited the gravesite and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's work, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to call at 1-800-TBI-FIND."

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**  @TBI... · Jan 22, 2021 

This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer. (1/2)

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**  @TBIInvestigation

Agents visited the gravesite and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's work, however,



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12:05 PM · Jan 22, 2021 from Franklin, TN



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The bureau's investigation led them to arrest **Joshua Andrew Garton**, who they charged with Harassment and held on \$76,000 bond.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation** @TBI... · Jan 22, 2021

Replying to @TBInvestigation

Agents visited the gravesite and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's work, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to call at 1-800-TBI-FIND. (2/2)

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation** @TBInvestigation

UPDATE: Investigative efforts, by TBI and the Dickson Police Department today, have led to a Harassment charge for a man accused of doctoring and posting a



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7:01 PM · Jan 22, 2021



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But as Tennessee attorney **Daniel A. Horwitz**, who specializes in First Amendment litigation noted, the specific conduct the TBI arrested Garton for is simply "not a crime."

"The First Amendment clearly and unmistakably protects this man's right to post an offensive photo about a police officer," Horwitz told Law&Crime. "The only people who broke the law here were the police officers and TBI agents who participated in this flagrantly unconstitutional arrest."

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"This is the photo that our constitutionally illiterate law enforcement officers think is a crime to share," Horwitz tweeted, attaching a screenshot of the picture that resulted in Garton's arrest.

**Daniel A. Horwitz** @Scot\_Blog · Jan 23, 2021

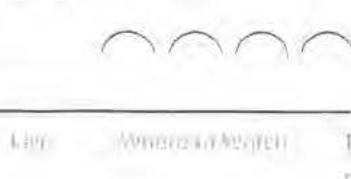


Replying to @Scot\_Blog

To the surprise of no one, @TBIinvestigation was involved as

"





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**Daniel A. Horwitz**  
@Scot\_Blog

This is the photo that our constitutionally illiterate law enforcement officers think is a crime to share.

9:18 AM · Jan 23, 2021



Additionally, under Tennessee law, harassing conduct requires communications that result in a person being "frightened, intimidated or emotionally distressed."

Asked how a deceased person could be the subject of criminal harassment, Horwitz replied that the TBI and Dickinson Police Department likely "set out to arrest [Garton] for one thing, quickly



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photo

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**Bryan Stephenson**  
@TNCrimDefense



Oh. The photo is from a band's album cover (10 years ago). Next up, they're gonna rally Tipper Gore to help them prosecute NWA, Ice T, & 2 Live Crew.

**Daniel A. Horwitz** @Scot\_Blog

This is not a crime, @dicksonpolice. Get yourselves a lawyer.  
[newschannel5.com/news/man-charg...](http://newschannel5.com/news/man-charg...)

12:03 PM · Jan 23, 2021




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precedent set in [Miller v. California](#), [New York v. Ferber](#), and [Ashcroft v. Free Speech Coalition](#). The TBI said all questions regarding the charges should be directed to the District Attorney's office. Crouch's office has not responded to the inquiry at the time of publication.

[image via TBI]

Have a tip we should know? [tips@lawandcrime.com](mailto:tips@lawandcrime.com)

**Filed Under:** First Amendment, harassment, Joshua Andrew Garton, Ray Crouch, TBI, Tennessee, Unlawful Arrest

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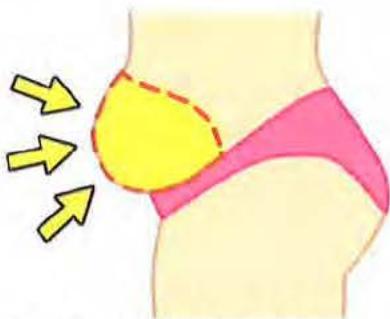


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## Jerry Lambe - Journalist

Jerry Lambe is a journalist at Law&Crime. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and New York Law School and previously worked in financial securities compliance and Civil Rights employment law.



More Stories by Jerry Lambe

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Marion Rowe • 10 days ago

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Myth Buster • 11 days ago

This is the scary thing. Too many people out there claiming to love their country and are willing to  
fight to maintain their Constitutional Rights; yet, have never read the Founding Document, don't  
even care to, so almost complete ignorance of what's in it and are so willing to abuse others'  
rights.

1 ^ v 1 • Reply • Share ▾

Mary Ziegler • 11 days ago

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payout of \$24413 and this was just of a one week... I have also purchased my McLaren  
Speedtail right after this payout... It is really great job I have ever had and you  
won't for-give yourself if you do not check it

>>> <https://meumessage.com/vkmEyYB>



^ v 1 • Reply • Share ▾

BIRDFISH1950 • 11 days ago

yes this does not shock me!!!!  
i have been a victim of false arrest!!!!  
yes when i was a youngster i did get into some tussles with the police but not since 1971  
because i found jesus!!!!!!  
but not even 20 years ago the police came right to my house!  
yes right to my house!  
they said my grandbaby was making a racket with the music!  
no this was not true because i was sleeping  
and no i do not like young folks music but when i was young the old timers did not like my music  
either  
about 10 cops came right into my apartment without even having a warrent and that racket did  
wake me up  
when i demanded my rights and demanded all the badge numbers they arrested me!!!!!!!  
now they did not beat me with those sand filled gloves like when i was a kid  
but they took me to the lockup  
i chanted and prayed all night  
the captain let me go in the morning!!!!!!!  
and no i did not even get one penny for the false arrest!!!!!!  
this sort of thing happens every day!!!!!!!





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**DragonTattoo** • 12 days ago

Lucky guy. Make sure you invest some of your settlement money.

2 ^ v + Reply · Share ·

**Ray Bluth** • 12 days ago

I never knew the TBI was a thing. They react to their mistakes just like most LEO's, cover up or scramble to find something they can charge this hapless fool with. We need LEO's but there needs to be a better way to vet them.

2 ^ v + Reply · Share ·

**matts1** ➔ Ray Bluth • 12 days ago • edited

Yeah every state has their own form of the FBI (TBI, CBI, NCSBI). Half the time its part of the State Police but the other half of the time, its separate under the state AG.

2 ^ v + Reply · Share ·

**taedium\_vitae** • 12 days ago • edited

Lol! Sweet payday coming to hillbilly shoooper.

3 ^ v + Reply · Share ·

**MindBender/Godspeed** • 12 days ago

Prosecutorial misconduct. Too bad they have immunity.

2 ^ v + Reply · Share ·

**Supirist** ➔ MindBender/Godspeed • 12 days ago

The state doesn't have immunity, this guy is gonna get paid!!

5 ^ v + Reply · Share ·

**MindBender/Godspeed** ➔ Supirist • 12 days ago

I hope you're right.

1 ^ v + Reply · Share ·

**Mythblaster** • 12 days ago

Is it purely coincidental that TBI also means Traumatic Brain Injury?

2 ^ v + Reply · Share ·

**BomperScruggs** • 12 days ago

There are some first amendment lawyers salivating right now.

1 ^ v + Reply · Share ·

**ZombiePoster99** • 12 days ago

Where are the right wingers screaming about government overreach?

12 ^ v + Reply · Share ·

**Doc2222** ➔ ZombiePoster99 • 12 days ago

Yeah, I was wondering that myself.....I thought it was only leftie, commie, socialists, blah, blah blah that tried to take away your innocent freedoms from speech.





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defendants will have to take time off from normal activities, unpaid time off from work

19 ^ v • Reply • Share ›

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**Martha Smith** ➔ NightriderXP1 • 12 days ago

"You can beat the rap, but you can't beat the ride."

3 ^ v • Reply • Share ›

**spg210** ➔ NightriderXP1 • 12 days ago • edited

Right. Then the defendant will definitely file a lawsuit for 1st Amendment violation, false arrest, harassment, etc., which he will certainly win. The cops will quickly settle out of court to avoid the public humiliation from a judge.

Easy money.

6 ^ v • Reply • Share ›

**NightriderXP1** ➔ spg210 • 12 days ago

You may not be able to understand this, but a lot of innocent Americans get arrested and jailed every single day, yet few ever win Civil lawsuits. They're lucky if they can avoid conviction. And once you're arrested, it goes on your permanent record even if you win acquittal or the case is dropped. Some States allow you to remove criminal records from your permanent record, but that can be costly too...

11 ^ v • Reply • Share ›

**Nightflyer** ➔ NightriderXP1 • 12 days ago

Some states have limits on how much they pay to persons who are wrongly imprisoned, once they cut you loose, too.

AND if you're wrongly imprisoned and cut loose, you do not qualify for rehab benefits and assistance given to parolees, which includes mental health counseling and job training or job-finding.

3 ^ v • Reply • Share ›

**NightriderXP1** ➔ Nightflyer • 12 days ago • edited

I was a victim of a false arrest a few years ago. I was assaulted by a couple of teenagers while I was walking my dogs at a local park. I called 911. So did they. And they convinced the officer that responded to their call that I had assaulted them. There was plenty of evidence in their public record that they had a history of doing what they did to me, but for whatever reason, their responding officer believed them even though my record is clean. The officer that responded to my 911 call claimed that he believed me so I'm not really sure why I ended up being arrested. It cost \$4500 to hire lawyers for my defense. Eventually, my lawyer got the case dropped, but the lawyer said that the police wouldn't go back and arrest the kids for what they did to me. I will never understand why not. I found out how easy it is to be wrongly accused of a crime from that experience. We almost need to be wearing body cams whenever in public to protect ourselves from crap like that. The guy from the couple had recently gotten out of jail. The cops should have been able to see that on their computers before they picked sides...

I had to pay extra to get the charges removed from my public record. That





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my attackers knew how to play the game. The guy's mother is also a sleezeball. She has a long criminal record yet for whatever reason, she remains free. According to the mother, both kids did the same thing to her. Her protective orders against both of the kids was publicly viewable online, which is why the cops should have been able to read them too...

[3](#) [^](#) [v](#) [• Reply](#) [• Share](#)**Collectivist** NightriderXP1 • 11 days ago

Geezus!

[2](#) [^](#) [v](#) [• Reply](#) [• Share](#)**Julie G** NightriderXP1 • 11 days ago

I could tell you some stories, but it would just get me steamed all over again. I'll just say, the boys in my family are magnets for LEO harrassment, maybe because they won't suffer fools no matter what unmarked uniforms they wear.

[3](#) [^](#) [v](#) [• Reply](#) [• Share](#)**NightriderXP1** Julie G • 11 days ago • edited

Perhaps they need to start wearing body cams in public at all times too. LEOs know that they can get away with murder and they know how much a false arrest can cost their victims. They often make up their own laws out of whole cloth, then enforce them. The only way for them to get away with it is when no one pushes back. Qualified immunity needs to stop and the many bad apples in LE need to be sued and removed. It's hard to argue that there are a lot of good apples in LE when few will stand up to the bad apples...

[6](#) [^](#) [v](#) [• Reply](#) [• Share](#)**Martha Smith** spg210 • 12 days ago

which he will certainly win.

Nope. The cops have qualified immunity, as do the prosecutors.

[2](#) [^](#) [v](#) [• Reply](#) [• Share](#)**Micheal Pelt** Martha Smith • 12 days ago

The qualified immunity is criminal law, not civil law. Qualified immunity does not protect them from being sued into the dirt.

[3](#) [^](#) [v](#) [• Reply](#) [• Share](#)**dreamjoshhill2** Micheal Pelt • 11 days ago

Your interpretation of qualified immunity is wrong. Qualified immunity applies to civil law as well.

"Qualified immunity is a judicially created doctrine that shields government officials from being held personally liable for constitutional violations—like the right to be free from excessive police force—for money damages under federal law so long as the officials did not violate 'clearly established' law."

X



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**BetterThanFabuloso** • 12 days ago

Looks like an insurrectionist

Lock him up

2 ⤵ 6 • Reply • Share ↗

**booyahconservative** • 12 days ago

These cops acted worse than the protestors who got upset over cartoon Muhammad

5 ⤵ • Reply • Share ↗

**Smiles** • 12 days ago

Law enforcement is corrupt from the top down.

IF 99% of law enforcement are "great people" ... they sure do seem to stand around and protect a two tier justice system along with their blue wall.

8 ⤵ • Reply • Share ↗

**FrNelomar** ➔ Smiles • 12 days ago

This is the basis of the BLM and antifa protests.

10 ⤵ • Reply • Share ↗

**Smiles** ➔ FrNelomar • 12 days ago

You mean the same people that police did hardly anything to the past year and a half they have been looting, rioting and burning things down ?

2 ⤵ 12 • Reply • Share ↗

**2words1finger** ➔ Smiles • 11 days ago

Well, we know who you voted for now. Thanks for outing yourself.

• Reply • Share ↗

**FrNelomar** ➔ Smiles • 12 days ago

(shrugs) Those people were arrested, and prosecuted. They represent a tiny fraction of the protesters. 100% of the insurrectionists who entered the capitol committed felonies.

Perspective, please.

10 ⤵ 3 • Reply • Share ↗

**Smiles** ➔ FrNelomar • 12 days ago

No, those people really weren't arrested as you claim and they certainly were not prosecuted. Many of those that attacked a Federal Court House for nearly a week escaped ever being charged. Who was arrested for setting fire to the historical church in DC ?

It has been widely seen on video officers opening gates and allowing protesters into the US Capitol. It will be interesting to see those videos surface at trial.

2 ⤵ 8 • Reply • Share ↗



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**Satanic\_Hamster** ➔ Smiles • 12 days ago

You don't actually get any of your news outside of Breitbart, do you?

4 ▲ ▾ • Reply • Share &gt;

**BetterThanFabuloso** • 12 days ago

You have to give credit to Kamala

Even in this #MeToo era, she proved that you can still f\*kk your way to the top

2 ▲ ▾ 13 • Reply • Share &gt;

**Bruce Rogie** ➔ BetterThanFabuloso • 12 days ago

Willie Brown appointed her California Attorney General? Who knew.

1 ▲ ▾ • Reply • Share &gt;

**ADDISON GAINOUS** ➔ BetterThanFabuloso • 12 days ago

My guess is you are jealous because YOU would not be able to sleep your way through to top garbage collector at the dump.

2 ▲ ▾ 1 • Reply • Share &gt;

**Lincoln Rhyme** • 12 days ago

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**Melany Martin**

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**From:** David Rausch  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 24, 2021 6:05 PM  
**To:** Joshua J. Melton  
**Cc:** Russ Winkler; Brad Nealon  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 24, 2021, at 5:16 PM, Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov> wrote:

Thank you Russ. I will continue to pass this along.

Thanks, Josh

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 24, 2021, at 5:36 PM, Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov> wrote:

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:30:32 PM CST  
**To:** Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement**

You may want to forward up the chain.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andy Davis <ADAVIS@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:28:22 PM CST  
**To:** Ray Crouch <wrcrouch@tndagc.org>, Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement**

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Christopher Lashlee  
<clashlee@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:26:13 PM  
CST  
**To:** All Sheriffs Office  
<AllSheriffsOffice@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Subject: Threats to law enforcement**

Today we received several phone patches through dispatch and through the jail where individuals are making threats against Law Enforcement officers. These threats are stemming from the arrest of Joshua Garton and the posts he had put on social media. There is a group that calls themselves "The Watch Dog" and another individual by the name of William R. Lord that are making threats towards us. They stated that it doesn't matter if we are in uniform or not that we better watch our backs and that they would rather take care of us from a distance. Be Vigilant and watch your six.

Cpl. Lashlee

---

**Confidentiality Notice:**  
The information contained in this email message and any attachment(s) is the property of Dickson County and may be protected by federal laws governing disclosure of private information. It is intended solely for the use of the entity to whom this email is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that reading, copying or distribution of this transmission is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.  
The sender has not waived any applicable privilege by sending the accompanying transmission.  
If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by returning and deleting

**Confidentiality Notice:**  
The information contained in this email message and any attachment(s) is the property of Dickson County and may be protected by federal laws governing disclosure of private information. It is intended solely for the use of the entity to whom this email is

addressed. If you are not the intended recipient,  
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distribution of this transmission is STRICTLY  
PROHIBITED.

The sender has not waived any applicable privilege by  
sending the accompanying transmission.

If you have received this transmission in error,  
please notify the sender by returning and deleting the  
message and attachment(s) from your system.

All Email Scanned by Barracuda Spam / Virus Filter

## Melany Martin

---

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 12:19 PM  
**To:** Brad Nealon; David Rausch  
**Subject:** FW: Revised Statement?

The below is what is going out to the media.

-----Original Message-----

From: Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>  
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 11:52 AM  
To: Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>; Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
Subject: Revised Statement?

This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media today, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer.

Agents visited the gravesite this morning and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's investigation, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to contact the TBI at 1-800-TBI-FIND.

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos and brevity. Thanks!

## Melany Martin

---

**From:** David Rausch  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 12:49 PM  
**To:** Joshua J. Melton  
**Cc:** Brad Nealon  
**Subject:** Re: Revised Statement?

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 22, 2021, at 1:19 PM, Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov> wrote:

>  
> The below is what is going out to the media.  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>  
> Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 11:52 AM  
> To: Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>; Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
> Subject: Revised Statement?

>  
> This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media today, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer.  
>  
> Agents visited the gravesite this morning and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's investigation, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to contact the TBI at 1-800-TBI-FIND.  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos and brevity. Thanks!

## Melany Martin

---

**From:** Brad Nealon  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 1:02 PM  
**To:** Joshua J. Melton  
**Cc:** David Rausch  
**Subject:** Re: Revised Statement?

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 22, 2021, at 1:19 PM, Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov> wrote:  
>  
> The below is what is going out to the media.  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>  
> Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 11:52 AM  
> To: Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>; Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
> Subject: Revised Statement?  
>  
> This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media today, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer.  
>  
> Agents visited the gravesite this morning and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's investigation, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to contact the TBI at 1-800-TBI-FIND.  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos and brevity. Thanks!

**Melany Martin**

---

**From:** Josh DeVine  
**Sent:** Friday, February 5, 2021 6:56 AM  
**To:** Joe Craig; Russ Winkler; Joshua J. Melton; Brad Nealon; David Rausch  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Public Records Request Re: Joshua Garton

Good morning, all.

Jeanne's team has this, but I wanted to be sure you were immediately aware, as well.

Thanks,

Josh

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos and brevity. Thanks!

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>  
**Date:** February 5, 2021 at 5:27:02 AM CST  
**To:** TBI Public Records <TBI.PublicRecords@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** Jeanne Broadwell <Jeanne.Broadwell@tn.gov>  
**Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Public Records Request Re: Joshua Garton**

FYI

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos and brevity. Thanks!

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Daniel Horwitz <daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 11:40:13 PM CST  
**To:** TBI Media <TBI.Media@tn.gov>  
**Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Records Request Re: Joshua Garton**

\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. \*\*\*

Mr. DeVine:

This is a public records request for any and all documents in your possession or any other employee of the TBI's possession concerning or relating in any way to Joshua Garton. The time period of this request is January 20, 2021 until the present. This request includes all text messages, emails, and private or direct messages. If you claim an exemption regarding any responsive record, please identify the basis for the claimed exemption in detail.

A litigation hold notice to you and others will follow upon production.

All the best,

-Daniel Horwitz

--  
Daniel A. Horwitz, Esq.  
[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)  
[www.danielhorwitz.com](http://www.danielhorwitz.com)

## Melany Martin

---

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 9:13 PM  
**To:** Jeanne Broadwell  
**Cc:** Brad Nealon; David Rausch; Russ Winkler  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit  
**Attachments:** Litigation Hold Notice Re J. Garton Lawsuit (2-4-21).pdf

Jeanne,

Please see the attached legal communication.

Thanks, Josh

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 8:18:17 PM CST  
**To:** "Joshua J. Melton" <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>, Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joseph Craig <jcraig@cumberland.edu>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 8:14:32 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit

\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. \*\*\*

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Daniel Horwitz <daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 2:19 PM  
**Subject:** Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit  
**To:** <[TipsToTBI@tn.gov](mailto:TipsToTBI@tn.gov)>, <[jcraig@cumberland.edu](mailto:jcraig@cumberland.edu)>, <[cop@dicksonpd.org](mailto:cop@dicksonpd.org)>, <[wrcrouch@tndagc.org](mailto:wrcrouch@tndagc.org)>

Dear Forthcoming Defendant:

Please find a litigation hold notice attached.

All the best,

-Daniel Horwitz

--  
Daniel A. Horwitz, Esq.  
[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)  
[www.danielhorwitz.com](http://www.danielhorwitz.com)

## Melany Martin

---

**From:** David Rausch  
**Sent:** Friday, February 5, 2021 7:31 AM  
**To:** Melany Martin  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit  
**Attachments:** Litigation Hold Notice Re J. Garton Lawsuit (2-4-21).pdf

Mel, please check my email and print any records on this subject. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Joshua J. Melton" <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 10:13:11 PM EST  
**To:** Jeanne Broadwell <Jeanne.Broadwell@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** Brad Nealon <Brad.Nealon@tn.gov>, David Rausch <David.Rausch@tn.gov>, Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit**

Jeanne,

Please see the attached legal communication.

Thanks, Josh

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 8:18:17 PM CST  
**To:** "Joshua J. Melton" <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>, Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit**

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joseph Craig <jcraig@cumberland.edu>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 8:14:32 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit**

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Daniel Horwitz <[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)>

Date: Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 2:19 PM

Subject: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit

To: <[TipsToTBI@tn.gov](mailto:TipsToTBI@tn.gov)>, <[jcraig@cumberland.edu](mailto:jcraig@cumberland.edu)>,

<[cop@dicksonpd.org](mailto:cop@dicksonpd.org)>, <[wrcrouch@tndagc.org](mailto:wrcrouch@tndagc.org)>

Dear Forthcoming Defendant:

Please find a litigation hold notice attached.

All the best,

-Daniel Horwitz

—  
Daniel A. Horwitz, Esq.  
[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)  
[www.danielhorwitz.com](http://www.danielhorwitz.com)

**From:** [Joshua J. Melton](#)  
**To:** [Heather Thorne](#)  
**Subject:** FW: TBI News Release - Dickson County - Joshua Garton  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:26:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[1-22-21 Dickson Harassment \(Joshua Garton\).pdf](#)  
[Joshua Garton.PNG](#)

---

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:23 PM  
**To:** Heather Thorne <Heather.Thorne@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: TBI News Release - Dickson County - Joshua Garton

Another one with attachments

**From:** Josh DeVine <[Josh.DeVine@tn.gov](#)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 7:06 PM  
**To:** Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](#)>; Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](#)>  
**Cc:** Ray Crouch ([wrcrouch@tndagc.org](#)) <[wrcrouch@tndagc.org](#)>  
**Subject:** TBI News Release - Dickson County - Joshua Garton

#### **LYLES MAN ARRESTED, CHARGED WITH DOCTORING & POSTING HARASSING PHOTOGRAPH**

**DICKSON COUNTY** – Special Agents from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, working alongside investigators from the Dickson Police Department, have arrested and charged a Lyles man accused of manufacturing and disseminating a harassing photograph on social media.

At the request of 23<sup>rd</sup> District Attorney General Ray Crouch, TBI Agents began investigating the origin of a photograph that depicted individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer, Sgt. Daniel Baker of the Dickson County Sheriff's Office. Agents subsequently visited Baker's gravesite this morning and determined the photograph was digitally manufactured. Further investigative efforts led to the identification of Joshua Andrew Garton (DOB 1-31-92) as the individual who manufactured the image and distributed it on social media.

This afternoon, Agents arrested Garton and charged him with one count of Harassment and booked him into the Dickson County Jail where, because of this charge and other, unrelated legal issues, he was being held on a \$76,000 bond.

###



**Josh DeVine** | Communications Director  
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation  
901 R.S. Gass Boulevard  
Nashville, TN 37216  
**OFFICE:** (615) 744-4295

“To unsubscribe from the TBIMEDIA list, send an email to [LISTSERV@LISTSERV.TN.GOV](mailto:LISTSERV@LISTSERV.TN.GOV) and type “Unsubscribe TBIMEDIA” in the message body. To subscribe to the TBIMEDIA list, send an email to [LISTSERV@LISTSERV.TN.GOV](mailto:LISTSERV@LISTSERV.TN.GOV) and type “Subscribe TBIMEDIA” in the message body.”

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** FW: Release - Please Review  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:30:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

**From:** Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 5:40 PM  
**To:** Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>; Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Release - Please Review

Given the sensitivity of this one, could you please review this draft of the release.

Thanks,  
Josh DeVine

#### **LYLES MAN ARRESTED, CHARGED WITH DOCTORING & POSTING HARASSING PHOTOGRAPH**

**DICKSON COUNTY** – Special Agents from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation have arrested and charged a Lyles man accused of manufacturing and disseminating a harassing photograph on social media.

At the request of 23<sup>rd</sup> District Attorney General Ray Crouch, TBI Agents began investigating the origin of a photograph that depicted individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer, Sgt. Daniel Baker of the Dickson County Sheriff's Office. Agents subsequently visited Baker's gravesite this morning and determined the photograph was not authentic. Further investigative efforts led to the identification of Joshua Andrew Garton (DOB 1-31-92) as the individual who manufactured the image and distributed it on social media.

This afternoon, Agents arrested Garton and charged him with one count of Harassment and booked him into the Dickson County Jail where, because of this charge and other, unrelated legal issues, he was being held on a \$76,000 bond.



**Josh DeVine** | Communications Director  
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation  
901 R.S. Gass Boulevard  
Nashville, TN 37216  
**OFFICE:** (615) 744-4295

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** FW: Revised Statement?  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:32:43 PM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 12:00 PM  
To: Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>  
Cc: Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>  
Subject: Re: Revised Statement?

Looks good to me.

> On Jan 22, 2021, at 11:52 AM, Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov> wrote:  
>  
> This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media today, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer.  
>  
> Agents visited the gravesite this morning and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's investigation, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to contact the TBI at 1-800-TBI-FIND.  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos and brevity. Thanks!

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thome  
**Subject:** FW: Revised Statement?  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:39:11 PM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Joshua J. Melton  
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 12:19 PM  
To: Brad Nealon <Brad.Nealon@tn.gov>; David Rausch <David.Rausch@tn.gov>  
Subject: FW: Revised Statement?

The below is what is going out to the media.

-----Original Message-----

From: Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>  
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 11:52 AM  
To: Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>; Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
Subject: Revised Statement?

This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media today, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer.

Agents visited the gravesite this morning and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's investigation, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to contact the TBI at 1-800-TBI-FIND.

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos and brevity. Thanks!

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:27:52 PM  
**Attachments:** [Litigation Hold Notice Re J. Garton Lawsuit \(2-4-21\).pdf](#)

---

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 9:13 PM  
**To:** Jeanne Broadwell <Jeanne.Broadwell@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** Brad Nealon <Brad.Nealon@tn.gov>; David Rausch <David.Rausch@tn.gov>; Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit

Jeanne,

Please see the attached legal communication.

Thanks, Josh

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](mailto:Joe.Craig@tn.gov)>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 8:18:17 PM CST  
**To:** "Joshua J. Melton" <[Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov](mailto:Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov)>, Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](mailto:Russ.Winkler@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joseph Craig <[jcraig@cumberland.edu](mailto:jcraig@cumberland.edu)>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 8:14:32 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](mailto:Joe.Craig@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Daniel Horwitz** <[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)>  
Date: Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 2:19 PM  
Subject: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit  
To: <[TipsToTBI@tn.gov](mailto:TipsToTBI@tn.gov)>, <[jcraig@cumberland.edu](mailto:jcraig@cumberland.edu)>, <[cop@dicksonpd.org](mailto:cop@dicksonpd.org)>, <[wrcrouch@tndagc.org](mailto:wrcrouch@tndagc.org)>

Dear Forthcoming Defendant:

Please find a litigation hold notice attached.

All the best,

-Daniel Horwitz

--  
Daniel A. Horwitz, Esq.  
[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)  
[www.danielhorwitz.com](http://www.danielhorwitz.com)

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Public Records Request Re: Joshua Garton  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:27:41 PM

---

**From:** Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 5, 2021 6:56 AM  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>; Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>; Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>; Brad Nealon <Brad.Nealon@tn.gov>; David Rausch <David.Rausch@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Public Records Request Re: Joshua Garton

Good morning, all.

Jeanne's team has this, but I wanted to be sure you were immediately aware, as well.

Thanks,

Josh

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos and brevity. Thanks!

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Josh DeVine <[Josh.DeVine@tn.gov](mailto:Josh.DeVine@tn.gov)>  
**Date:** February 5, 2021 at 5:27:02 AM CST  
**To:** TBI Public Records <[TBI.PublicRecords@tn.gov](mailto:TBI.PublicRecords@tn.gov)>  
**Cc:** Jeanne Broadwell <[Jeanne.Broadwell@tn.gov](mailto:Jeanne.Broadwell@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Public Records Request Re: Joshua Garton

FYI

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos and brevity. Thanks!

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Daniel Horwitz <[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 11:40:13 PM CST  
**To:** TBI Media <[TBI.Media@tn.gov](mailto:TBI.Media@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Records Request Re: Joshua Garton

\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. \*\*\*

Mr. DeVine:

This is a public records request for any and all documents in your

possession or any other employee of the TBI's possession concerning or relating in any way to Joshua Garton. The time period of this request is January 20, 2021 until the present. This request includes all text messages, emails, and private or direct messages. If you claim an exemption regarding any responsive record, please identify the basis for the claimed exemption in detail.

A litigation hold notice to you and others will follow upon production.

All the best,

-Daniel Horwitz

--

Daniel A. Horwitz, Esq.  
[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)  
[www.danielhorwitz.com](http://www.danielhorwitz.com)

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:28:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [Litigation Hold Notice Re J. Garton Lawsuit \(2-4-21\).pdf](#)

---

**From:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 8:18 PM  
**To:** Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>; Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joseph Craig <[jcraig@cumberland.edu](mailto:jcraig@cumberland.edu)>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 8:14:32 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](mailto:Joe.Craig@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit

\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. \*\*\*

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Daniel Horwitz <[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)>  
Date: Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 2:19 PM  
Subject: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit  
To: <[TipsToTBI@tn.gov](mailto:TipsToTBI@tn.gov)>, <[jcraig@cumberland.edu](mailto:jcraig@cumberland.edu)>, <[cop@dicksonpd.org](mailto:cop@dicksonpd.org)>, <[wrcrouch@tndagc.org](mailto:wrcrouch@tndagc.org)>

Dear Forthcoming Defendant:

Please find a litigation hold notice attached.

All the best,

-Daniel Horwitz

--  
Daniel A. Horwitz, Esq.  
[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)

[www.danielhorwitz.com](http://www.danielhorwitz.com)

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:28:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [Litigation Hold Notice Re J. Garton Lawsuit \(2-4-21\).pdf](#)

---

**From:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 8:18 PM  
**To:** Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>; Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joseph Craig <[jcraig@cumberland.edu](mailto:jcraig@cumberland.edu)>  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 at 8:14:32 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](mailto:Joe.Craig@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit

\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. \*\*\*

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Daniel Horwitz** <[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)>  
Date: Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 2:19 PM  
Subject: Litigation Hold Notice Re: Forthcoming J. Garton Lawsuit  
To: <[TipsToTBI@tn.gov](mailto:TipsToTBI@tn.gov)>, <[jcraig@cumberland.edu](mailto:jcraig@cumberland.edu)>, <[cop@dicksonpd.org](mailto:cop@dicksonpd.org)>, <[wrcrouch@tndagc.org](mailto:wrcrouch@tndagc.org)>

Dear Forthcoming Defendant:

Please find a litigation hold notice attached.

All the best,

-Daniel Horwitz

--  
Daniel A. Horwitz, Esq.  
[daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.a.horwitz@gmail.com)

[www.danielhorwitz.com](http://www.danielhorwitz.com)

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** FW: LE Sensitive  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:28:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [ReportSearchExport\\_Garton Complaint Calls.xlsx](#)

---

**From:** Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 25, 2021 12:32 PM  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>; Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: LE Sensitive

**From:** Michael Frizzell <[Michael.Frizzell@tn.gov](mailto:Michael.Frizzell@tn.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 25, 2021 8:31 AM  
**To:** Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](mailto:Russ.Winkler@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** LE Sensitive

The attachment contains two worksheet tabs: 1) Duty Officer Calls; 2) System call logs.

We have received a total of 21 calls from 8 unique numbers, which began on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Michael D. Frizzell  
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation  
Special Agent-in-Charge  
Protective Services Unit  
901 R.S. Gass Blvd  
Nashville, TN 37216

615.744.4000 – Main  
615.744.4088 – Office  
615.521.0811 - Cell

Location	Case Date	Case Number	Details
UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T05:56:00	2021-01-23T12:04:00	UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE
HQ - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T05:56:00	2021-01-23T12:04:00	describing an Officer. Chief's wife, information on the officer's wife of about when we will send by Mr. John us details who was charged with describing an Officer. Chief's wife, information on the officer's wife of about when we will send by Mr. John us details who was charged with
UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T08:26:00	2021-01-23T08:56:00	UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE
HQ - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T08:26:00	2021-01-23T08:56:00	describing an Officer. Chief's wife, information on the officer's wife of about when we will send by Mr. John us details who was charged with
UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T09:43:00	2021-01-23T09:43:00	UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE
HQ - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T09:43:00	2021-01-23T09:43:00	describing an Officer. Chief's wife, information on the officer's wife of about when we will send by Mr. John us details who was charged with
UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T12:18:00	2021-01-23T13:19:00	UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE
HQ - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T12:18:00	2021-01-23T13:19:00	describing an Officer. Chief's wife, information on the officer's wife of about when we will send by Mr. John us details who was charged with
UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T13:27:00	2021-01-23T13:29:00	UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE
HQ - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T13:27:00	2021-01-23T13:29:00	describing an Officer. Chief's wife, information on the officer's wife of about when we will send by Mr. John us details who was charged with
UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T13:37:00	2021-01-23T13:48:00	UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE
HQ - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T13:37:00	2021-01-23T13:48:00	describing an Officer. Chief's wife, information on the officer's wife of about when we will send by Mr. John us details who was charged with
UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T15:49:00	2021-01-23T15:51:00	UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE
HQ - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T15:49:00	2021-01-23T15:51:00	describing an Officer. Chief's wife, information on the officer's wife of about when we will send by Mr. John us details who was charged with
UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T00:07:00	2021-01-23T00:09:00	UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE
HQ - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T00:07:00	2021-01-23T00:09:00	describing an Officer. Chief's wife, information on the officer's wife of about when we will send by Mr. John us details who was charged with
UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T07:42:00	2021-01-23T07:42:00	UNIFORM OFFICERS - NASHVILLE
HQ - NASHVILLE	2021-01-23T07:42:00	2021-01-23T07:42:00	describing an Officer. Chief's wife, information on the officer's wife of about when we will send by Mr. John us details who was charged with

Start date	Duration	Extension Used	Dialed/CLI number	Call destination	Call direction	Call type	Trunk	Cost
1/23/2021 09:54:30 AM	00:08:30	3311	816-401-3585	KANSASCITY, MO	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 08:25:42 AM	00:01:18	3311	503-805-8078	PORLAND, OR	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 08:27:00 AM	00:01:00	3311	503-805-8078	PORLAND, OR	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 08:28:36 AM	00:01:24	3311	503-805-8078	PORLAND, OR	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 08:31:00 AM	00:01:00	3311	503-805-8078	PORLAND, OR	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 09:39:30 AM	00:05:30	3311	732-662-0310	METUCHEN, NJ	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 01:15:48 PM	00:03:12	5510	586-610-3308	MT CLEMENS, MI	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 01:17:00 PM	00:00:00	3311	586-610-3308	MT CLEMENS, MI	INCOMING	Incoming	609021	\$0.00
1/24/2021 01:25:18 PM	00:01:42	3311	214-874-5605	DALLAS, TX	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 01:37:06 PM	00:01:54	3311	214-874-5605	DALLAS, TX	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 03:48:30 PM	00:01:30	3311	209-263-7235	LODI, CA	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 07:53:36 PM	00:00:24	3312	850-748-8656	PENSACOLA, FL	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 07:58:42 PM	00:00:18	3312	850-748-8656	PENSACOLA, FL	INCOMING	Incoming	601002	\$0.00
1/24/2021 07:58:54 PM	00:00:05	3311	850-748-8656	PENSACOLA, FL	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 07:59:00 PM	00:00:00	3311	850-748-8656	PENSACOLA, FL	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 07:59:00 PM	00:00:00	3311	850-748-8656	PENSACOLA, FL	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 07:59:54 PM	00:00:06	3312	850-748-8656	PENSACOLA, FL	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 08:00:00 PM	00:00:00	3311	850-748-8656	PENSACOLA, FL	INCOMING	Incoming	601002	\$0.00
1/24/2021 08:00:00 PM	00:00:00	3312	850-748-8656	PENSACOLA, FL	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/24/2021 08:00:00 PM	00:00:00	3311	850-748-8656	PENSACOLA, FL	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00
1/25/2021 12:06:18 AM	00:01:42	3312	267-393-4275	YARDLEY, PA	INCOMING	Incoming	601001	\$0.00

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:29:22 PM

---

**From:** Brad Nealon <Brad.Nealon@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 24, 2021 7:41 PM  
**To:** Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>; David Rausch <David.Rausch@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement

Thank the

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 24, 2021, at 6:16 PM, Joshua J. Melton <[Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov](mailto:Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov)> wrote:

Thank you Russ. I will continue to pass this along.

Thanks, Josh

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 24, 2021, at 5:36 PM, Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](mailto:Russ.Winkler@tn.gov)> wrote:

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](mailto:Joe.Craig@tn.gov)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:30:32 PM CST  
**To:** Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](mailto:Russ.Winkler@tn.gov)>  
**Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement**

You may want to forward up the chain.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andy Davis  
<ADAVIS@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:28:22 PM CST  
**To:** Ray Crouch <[wrcrouch@tdagc.org](mailto:wrcrouch@tdagc.org)>, Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](mailto:Joe.Craig@tn.gov)>  
**Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement**

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Christopher Lashlee  
<[clashlee@dicksoncounty.net](mailto:clashlee@dicksoncounty.net)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:26:13 PM CST  
**To:** All Sheriffs Office <[AllSheriffsOffice@dicksoncounty.net](mailto:AllSheriffsOffice@dicksoncounty.net)>  
**Subject: Threats to law enforcement**

Today we received several phone patches through dispatch and through the jail where individuals are making threats against Law Enforcement officers. These threats are stemming from the arrest of Joshua Garton and the posts he had put on social media. There is a group that calls themselves "The Watch Dog" and another individual by the name of William R. Lord that are making threats towards us. They stated that it doesn't matter if we are in uniform or not that we better watch our backs and that they would rather take care of us from a distance. Be Vigilant and watch your six.

Cpl. Lashlee

---

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**From:** [Joshua J. Melton](#)  
**To:** [Heather Thorne](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:29:40 PM

---

**From:** David Rausch <David.Rausch@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 24, 2021 6:05 PM  
**To:** Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>; Brad Nealon <Brad.Nealon@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 24, 2021, at 5:16 PM, Joshua J. Melton <[Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov](#)> wrote:

Thank you Russ. I will continue to pass this along.

Thanks, Josh

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 24, 2021, at 5:36 PM, Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](#)> wrote:

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](#)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:30:32 PM CST  
**To:** Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](#)>  
**Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement**

You may want to forward up the chain.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andy Davis  
<ADAVIS@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:28:22 PM CST  
**To:** Ray Crouch <wrcrouch@tndagc.org>, Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement**

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Christopher Lashlee  
<clashlee@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:26:13 PM CST  
**To:** All Sheriffs Office  
<AllSheriffsOffice@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Subject: Threats to law enforcement**

Today we received several phone patches through dispatch and through the jail where individuals are making threats against Law Enforcement officers. These threats are stemming from the arrest of Joshua Garton and the posts he had put on social media. There is a group that calls themselves "The Watch Dog" and another individual by the name of William R. Lord that are making threats towards us. They stated that it doesn't matter if we are in uniform or not that we better watch our backs and that they would rather take care of us from a distance. Be Vigilant and watch your six.

Cpl. Lashlee

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All Email Scanned by Barracuda Spam / Virus Filter

**From:** [Joshua J. Melton](#)  
**To:** [Heather Thorne](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:29:51 PM

---

**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 24, 2021 5:17 PM  
**To:** Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](mailto:Russ.Winkler@tn.gov)>  
**Cc:** Brad Nealon <[Brad.Nealon@tn.gov](mailto:Brad.Nealon@tn.gov)>; David Rausch <[David.Rausch@tn.gov](mailto:David.Rausch@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement

Thank you Russ, I will continue to pass this along.

Thanks, Josh

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 24, 2021, at 5:36 PM, Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](mailto:Russ.Winkler@tn.gov)> wrote:

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](mailto:Joe.Craig@tn.gov)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:30:32 PM CST  
**To:** Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](mailto:Russ.Winkler@tn.gov)>  
**Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement**

You may want to forward up the chain.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andy Davis <[ADAVIS@dicksoncounty.net](mailto:ADAVIS@dicksoncounty.net)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:28:22 PM CST  
**To:** Ray Crouch <[wrcrouch@tndagc.org](mailto:wrcrouch@tndagc.org)>, Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](mailto:Joe.Craig@tn.gov)>  
**Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement**

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Christopher Lashlee  
<[clashlee@dicksoncounty.net](mailto:clashlee@dicksoncounty.net)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:26:13 PM CST  
**To:** All Sheriffs Office  
<[AllSheriffsOffice@dicksoncounty.net](mailto:AllSheriffsOffice@dicksoncounty.net)>  
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Cpl. Lashlee

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**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:29:58 PM

---

**From:** Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 24, 2021 4:36 PM  
**To:** Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](mailto:Joe.Craig@tn.gov)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:30:32 PM CST  
**To:** Russ Winkler <[Russ.Winkler@tn.gov](mailto:Russ.Winkler@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement

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Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Andy Davis <[ADAVIS@dicksoncounty.net](mailto:ADAVIS@dicksoncounty.net)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:28:22 PM CST  
**To:** Ray Crouch <[wrcrouch@tndagc.org](mailto:wrcrouch@tndagc.org)>, Joe Craig <[Joe.Craig@tn.gov](mailto:Joe.Craig@tn.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Christopher Lashlee <[clashlee@dicksoncounty.net](mailto:clashlee@dicksoncounty.net)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:26:13 PM CST  
**To:** All Sheriffs Office <[AllSheriffsOffice@dicksoncounty.net](mailto:AllSheriffsOffice@dicksoncounty.net)>  
**Subject:** Threats to law enforcement

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Cpl. Lashlee

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**From:** Joshua J. Melton  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** FW: TBI News Release - Dickson County - Joshua Garton  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:30:12 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[1-22-21 Dickson Harassment \(Joshua Garton\).pdf](#)  
[Joshua Garton.PNG](#)

---

**From:** Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 7:06 PM  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>; Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** Ray Crouch (wrcrouch@tdagc.org) <wrcrouch@tdagc.org>  
**Subject:** TBI News Release - Dickson County - Joshua Garton

#### **LYLES MAN ARRESTED, CHARGED WITH DOCTORING & POSTING HARASSING PHOTOGRAPH**

**DICKSON COUNTY** – Special Agents from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, working alongside investigators from the Dickson Police Department, have arrested and charged a Lyles man accused of manufacturing and disseminating a harassing photograph on social media.

At the request of 23<sup>rd</sup> District Attorney General Ray Crouch, TBI Agents began investigating the origin of a photograph that depicted individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer, Sgt. Daniel Baker of the Dickson County Sheriff's Office. Agents subsequently visited Baker's gravesite this morning and determined the photograph was digitally manufactured. Further investigative efforts led to the identification of Joshua Andrew Garton (DOB 1-31-92) as the individual who manufactured the image and distributed it on social media.

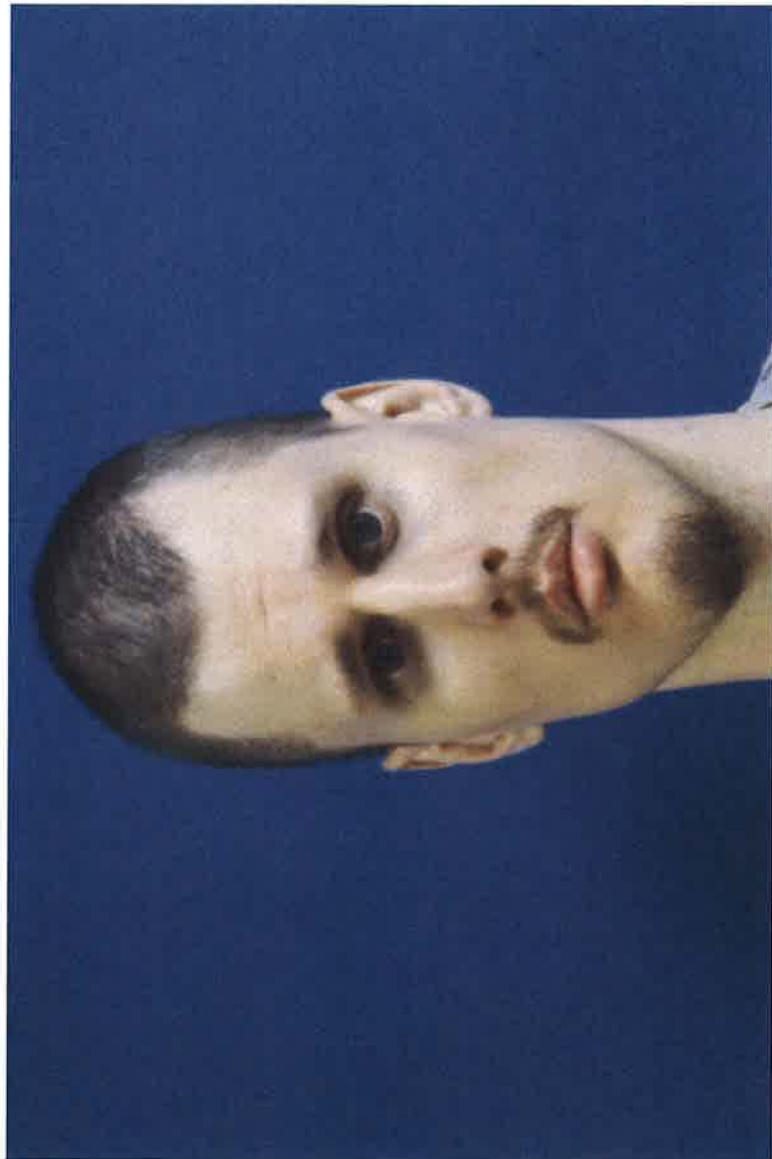
This afternoon, Agents arrested Garton and charged him with one count of Harassment and booked him into the Dickson County Jail where, because of this charge and other, unrelated legal issues, he was being held on a \$76,000 bond.

###



**Josh DeVine** | Communications Director  
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation  
901 R.S. Gass Boulevard  
Nashville, TN 37216  
**OFFICE:** (615) 744-4295

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# MEDIA RELEASE

## Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

*"that guilt shall not escape nor innocence suffer"*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JANUARY 22, 2021

CONTACT: JOSH DEVINE  
PHONE: (615) 744-4295 (OFFICE)  
EMAIL: TBI.MEDIA@TN.GOV

### LYLES MAN ARRESTED, CHARGED WITH DOCTORING & POSTING HARASSING PHOTOGRAPH

**DICKSON COUNTY** – Special Agents from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, working alongside investigators from the Dickson Police Department, have arrested and charged a Lyles man accused of manufacturing and disseminating a harassing photograph on social media.

At the request of 23<sup>rd</sup> District Attorney General Ray Crouch, TBI Agents began investigating the origin of a photograph that depicted individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer, Sgt. Daniel Baker of the Dickson County Sheriff's Office. Agents subsequently visited Baker's gravesite this morning and determined the photograph was digitally manufactured. Further investigative efforts led to the identification of Joshua Andrew Garton (DOB 1-31-92) as the individual who manufactured the image and distributed it on social media.

This afternoon, Agents arrested Garton and charged him with one count of Harassment and booked him into the Dickson County Jail where, because of this charge and other, unrelated legal issues, he was being held on a \$76,000 bond.



###

#### About TBI

Since 1980, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has served as the state's independent, lead law enforcement agency. Every day, focused on the agency's core values of truth, bravery, and integrity, the TBI's approximately 600 employees provide a variety of advanced criminal and drug investigative, forensic, and criminal justice services to assist local, state, and federal law enforcement partners, to fulfill the agency's promise, *"That Guilt Shall Not Escape Nor Innocence Suffer."* Learn more about the TBI online at [tn.gov/tbi](http://tn.gov/tbi), and connect with the agency on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram at [@TBInvestigation](https://www.instagram.com/TBInvestigation).



Brad >

Wed, Feb 3, 3:37 PM

There was a preliminary hearing  
at which time he dismissed

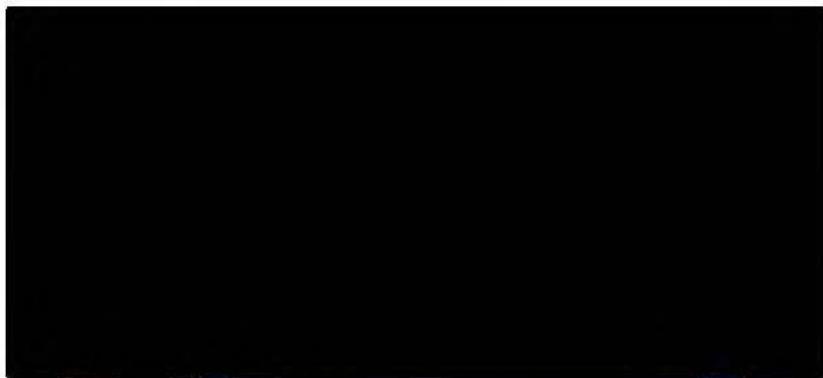
Fri, Feb 5, 10:52 AM

Busy?

Fri, Feb 5, 1:06 PM

Busy now?

Free now



( iMessage



Joe >

That sounds like a perfect plan!  
I appreciate it!

Wed, Feb 3, 6:09 PM

Was any media present at the  
hearing today? Just curious

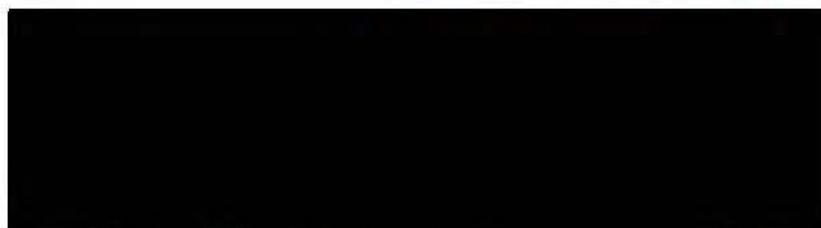
No

Got ya. Thanks!

You have a minute

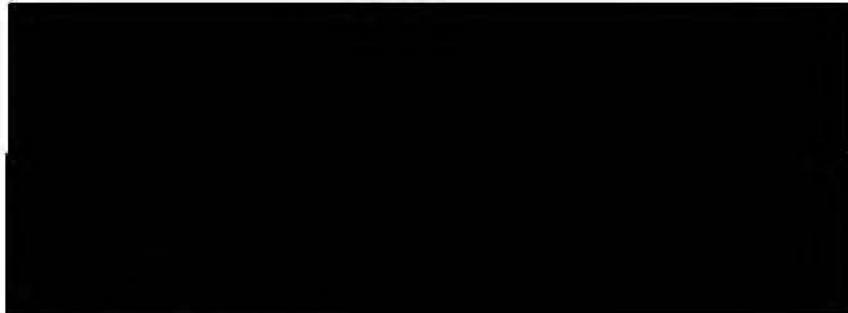
For a call

I will I'm just a second



iMessage

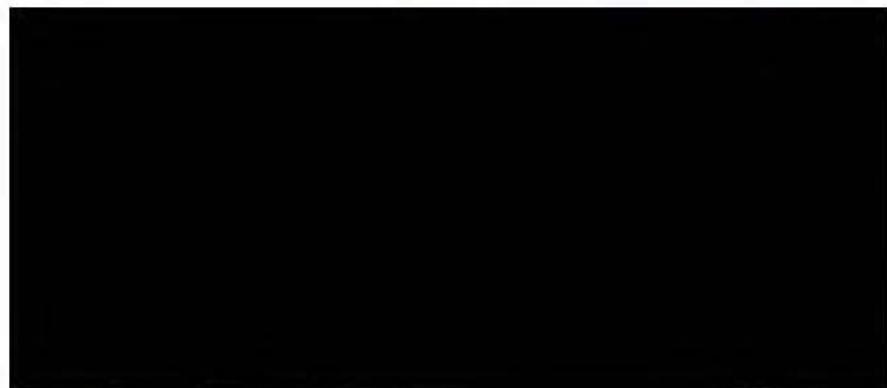




We are finished.

The judge dismissed the case.  
Said nobody was victimized.

Well there you have it



10/Message



New iMessage

Cancel

To: Joe Craig

after the hearing and talk about  
what all we have and what's  
coming in if you have time



Mon, Jan 25, 9:36 AM

What time is the hearing today  
Joe? Sorry to interrupt if it is  
now

Not sure, will let you know

Can I call you?

Yes



iMessage



RD

Rausch

Wednesday 4:41 PM

Josh advised that the harassment charge against the person in Dickson County was dismissed today following a preliminary hearing. Apparently the Judge cited there was no victim in the case

Wednesday 5:43 PM

**That is not good.**

Wednesday 6:48 PM

Yep



iMessage



## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Brad Nealon  
**Sent:** Friday, February 19, 2021 2:38 PM  
**To:** Heather Thorne  
**Subject:** Fwd: Revised Statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Brad Nealon <Brad.Nealon@tn.gov>  
**Date:** January 22, 2021 at 2:01:40 PM EST  
**To:** "Joshua J. Melton" <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** David Rausch <David.Rausch@tn.gov>  
**Subject: Re: Revised Statement?**

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 22, 2021, at 1:19 PM, Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov> wrote:

The below is what is going out to the media.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 11:52 AM  
**To:** Joshua J. Melton <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>; Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Revised Statement?

This morning, District Attorney General Ray Crouch requested the TBI to investigate the origin of a troubling photograph, getting considerable attention on social media today, that seemed to depict individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer.

Agents visited the gravesite this morning and quickly determined the photograph is not authentic. The TBI's investigation, however, continues and, to that end, the Bureau would encourage anyone with information about who may be responsible for manufacturing the image to contact the TBI at 1-800-TBI-FIND.

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any typos and brevity. Thanks!

## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Larissa Picard  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 24, 2021 8:21 PM  
**To:** Russ Winkler; Nathan Neese  
**Subject:** Harassment Calls Regarding Joshua Garton

Good evening,

I just wanted to pass along that friends of Joshua Garton have been harassing TIES and UOs all day long with nonsense calls. Day shift advised that they have called all day long cussing out whoever answered the phone. We have received numerous of the same calls so far tonight. The calls are starting to come consecutively to where they are tying up both main line phones. I know UOs have informed Mike Frizzell. I'm not sure if y'all can even do anything in this situation, but I wanted to make y'all aware. Here are the numbers that have called since Kristen and I have been on shift:

5635141904  
8507488656 (9 calls)  
3148521996  
3057839015

*Larissa Picard*  
Crime Information Communication Specialist  
CJIS Support Center / TIES  
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation



901 R.S. Gass Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37216  
Office: 615.744.4600  
Larissa.Picard@tn.gov

## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Leslie Earhart  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 23, 2021 5:31 PM  
**To:** David Rausch; Josh DeVine; Brad Nealon; Joshua J. Melton; Russ Winkler  
**Cc:** Susan Niland; Keli McAlister  
**Subject:** FYI - Dickson County case

Good evening,

I'm passing this article along in case you havent seen it.  
I just wanted to make you aware.

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/lawandcrime.com/crazy/constitutionally-illiterate-tennessee-authorities-arrest-man-for-posting-an-anti-police-meme-on-social-media/amp/>

Take care,  
Leslie

## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Michael Frizzell  
**Sent:** Monday, January 25, 2021 8:31 AM  
**To:** Russ Winkler  
**Subject:** LE Sensitive  
**Attachments:** ReportSearchExport\_Garton Complaint Calls.xlsx

The attachment contains two worksheet tabs: 1) Duty Officer Calls; 2) System call logs.

We have received a total of 21 calls from 8 unique numbers, which began on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Michael D. Frizzell  
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation  
Special Agent-in-Charge  
Protective Services Unit  
901 R.S. Gass Blvd  
Nashville, TN 37216

615.744.4000 – Main  
615.744.4088 – Office  
615.521.0811 - Cell

## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Russ Winkler  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 5:38 PM  
**To:** Joe Craig  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Sheet

Got it, thank you.

On Jan 22, 2021, at 5:36 PM, Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov> wrote:

Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 22, 2021, at 5:31 PM, Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Pentecost <apentecost@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 22, 2021 at 5:30:35 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Sheet

Here you go sir. Let me know if you need anything else.

Corporal Andrew Pentecost  
Badge# [REDACTED]  
2nd Shift Corrections  
Dickson County Sheriff's Department  
146 County Jail Drive  
Charlotte, TN 37036  
Work: (615) 789-4109  
Cell: [REDACTED]

---

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<Joshua Garton Intake Sheet.pdf>

## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Russ Winkler  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 23, 2021 6:45 PM  
**To:** Joe Craig  
**Subject:** Fwd: FYI - Dickson County case

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Joshua J. Melton" <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>  
**Date:** January 23, 2021 at 6:41:53 PM CST  
**To:** Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject: Fwd: FYI - Dickson County case**

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Leslie Earhart <Leslie.Earhart@tn.gov>  
**Date:** January 23, 2021 at 6:30:49 PM EST  
**To:** David Rausch <David.Rausch@tn.gov>, Josh DeVine <Josh.DeVine@tn.gov>, Brad Nealon <Brad.Nealon@tn.gov>, "Joshua J. Melton" <Joshua.J.Melton@tn.gov>, Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** Susan Niland <Susan.Niland@tn.gov>, Keli McAlister <Keli.McAlister@tn.gov>  
**Subject: FYI - Dickson County case**

Good evening,

I'm passing this article along in case you havent seen it.  
I just wanted to make you aware.

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/lawandcrime.com/crazy/constitutionally-illiterate-tennessee-authorities-arrest-man-for-posting-an-anti-police-meme-on-social-media/amp/>

Take care,  
Leslie

## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Russ Winkler  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 5:32 PM  
**To:** Josh DeVine  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Sheet  
**Attachments:** Joshua Garton Intake Sheet.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Date:** January 22, 2021 at 5:31:40 PM CST  
**To:** Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** Nathan Neese <Nathan.Neese@tn.gov>  
**Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Sheet**

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Pentecost <apentecost@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 22, 2021 at 5:30:35 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Sheet**

Here you go sir. Let me know if you need anything else.

Corporal Andrew Pentecost  
Badge# [REDACTED]  
2nd Shift Corrections  
Dickson County Sheriff's Department  
146 County Jail Drive  
Charlotte, TN 37036  
Work: (615) 789-4109  
Cell: [REDACTED]

---

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Dickson County Sheriff's Office  
Booking Intake Details

Page 1 of

3

### Inmate Details

Full Name <b>GARTON, JOSHUA ANDREW</b>	Intake Date <b>01/22/2021 15:35</b>	Release Date	Booking #:2021010166 Jacket #: 127590
Address: <b>9986 ROCKY POINT RD</b>	Pod/Cell/Bed: <b>MD-2-MD-2-</b>		
City/State: <b>-BON AQUA, TN 37025</b>	Date Of Birth: <b>01/31/1992</b>		
Home:	Cell:	Age At Intake: <b>28</b>	
Race: <b>WHITE</b>	Sex: <b>MALE</b>		
Height: <b>511</b>	Weight <b>151</b>		
Eye Color: <b>HAZEL</b>	Hair Color: <b>BROWN</b>		
Complexion: <b>LIGHT</b>	Build: <b>AVERAGE BUILD</b>		
Facial Hair: <b>GOATEE AND MOUSTACHE</b>	Glasses: <b>NONE</b>		
Hair Style:	Hair Length: <b>SHORT</b>		
Marital: <b>SINGLE</b>	# Of Children: <b>0</b>		
Religion: <b>NO PREFERENCE</b>	Resident: <b>RESIDENT</b>		
Gang Name: <b>'NONE</b>			
Indian Tribe:	Days In Jail: <b>1</b>		
Ethnicity: <b>NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO</b>	Property Location: <b>PB</b>		

### Intake / Release Info

Intake By:	Intake Date: <b>01/22/2021 15:35</b>	Reason: <b>ARREST WARRANT</b>
Searched By:		
Finger Print By:	Finger Print #:	
Dressed Out By:		
Release By:	Release Date:	Reason:
Released OR By:		Weight Out: <b>0</b>
Bonded Out By:		

### Inmate ID

SSN:	SID#:	DL#:
DOC/Prison:	FBI#:	ICE:
Military: <b>NO</b>	Branch:	Rank:
Local ID:	Student:	Other ID:

### Classification

Inmate Classification:	<b>PRETRIAL MISD</b>		Suicide Watch: <b>No</b>	Violent At Intake: <b>No</b>
PREA Classification:			Escape Risk: <b>No</b>	Weekender: <b>No</b>
Registered Offender: <b>No</b>	Tusty: <b>No</b>	Mental Illness: <b>No</b>	Felon <b>No</b>	
Housing Classification:	State Parolee: <b>No</b>	Federal Prisoner: <b>No</b>	Indigent: <b>No</b>	
Protective Custody: <b>No</b>	Local Parolee: <b>No</b>	Restrict Commissary: <b>No</b>		
Work Crew:				

### Place Of Birth

NCIC POB:	<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	Citizen: <b>Yes</b>
-----------	---------------------------------	---------------------

Print Date: Jan 22 2021 - 17:27:05

Powered by iSOMS(c) Driven by Values

Dickson County Sheriff's Office, OFFENDER: JOSHUA GARTON

Booking\_Details

APENTECOST



Dickson County Sheriff's Office  
Booking Intake Details

Page 2 of

3

### Inmate Details

Full Name <b>GARTON, JOSHUA ANDREW</b>	Intake Date <b>01/22/2021 15:35</b>	Release Date	Booking #:2021010166 Jacket #: 127590
Country Of Citizenship <b>UNITED STATES</b>		Foreign Born:	<b>No</b>
Place of Birth: <b>NASHVILLE TN</b>		Homeless:	<b>No</b>
Intrepreter Required:			

### Initial Arrest Information

Arrest Date: <b>01/22/2021 15:47</b>	Case#:
Arrest Location: <b>DICKSON POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>	Mittimus#:
Vehicle Info: <b>N/A</b>	
Arrest Agency: <b>TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION</b>	
Arrest Officer: <b>ASAC TBI CRAIG</b>	Badge:

### Bond Information

Charge Count: <b>1</b>	Computed Bond: <b>76000.00</b>	Override Bond:
------------------------	--------------------------------	----------------

### Charge Information

Charge Code	Statute	Ordinance	Court	Court Date	Dept	Add On
<b>39-17-308</b>	<b>39-17-308</b>		<b>G</b>	<b>04/20/2021 13:00</b>		
Description:	<b>HARASSMENT (NON-VERBAL THREAT)</b>					
Detail:	<b>HARASSMENT</b>					
Arrest Dept:	<b>TBI</b>			Badge:		
Arrest Officer:				Bond:	<b>76000.00</b>	
Bond:	<b>CC</b>			Bond Text:	<b>CASH/COMMERCIAL</b>	
Warrant #:	<b>NO NUMBER GIVEN</b>					

### Employer

Employer: <b>UNEMPLOYED</b>	
Address:	Length:
City/State:	Phone:
Occupation: <b>UNEMPLOYED</b>	

### Emergency Contact

Name	Relationship
<b>, NO CONTACTS</b>	

Race:	SSN:	Home Phone:
Sex:	DL#:	Work Phone:
Occupation:		Cell Phone:



**Dickson County Sheriff's Office  
Booking Intake Details**

Page 3 of

3

**Inmate Details**

Full Name <b>GARTON, JOSHUA ANDREW</b>	Intake Date <b>01/22/2021 15:35</b>	Release Date	Booking #:2021010166 Jacket #: 127590
---	--	--------------	--

**Intake Phone Call**

Phone #: Notes:

**Education History**

Level Of Education	Juvenile	Highest Grade	Enrolled Prior To Arrest	Can Read/Write	Special Ed
12 TH GRADE	NO	12TH			
Request Educational Services:					
Last School Attended:		<b>KENWOOD HIGH</b>			

[Redacted] Inmate Signature / Date

[Redacted] Officer Signature / Date

## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Russ Winkler  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 5:35 PM  
**To:** Josh DeVine  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Photo

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Date:** January 22, 2021 at 5:34:23 PM CST  
**To:** Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Photo

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Pentecost <apentecost@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 22, 2021 at 5:33:05 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Photo

Corporal Andrew Pentecost  
Badge# [REDACTED]  
2nd Shift Corrections  
Dickson County Sheriff's Department  
146 County Jail Drive  
Charlotte, TN 37036  
Work: (615) 789-4109  
Cell: [REDACTED]

---

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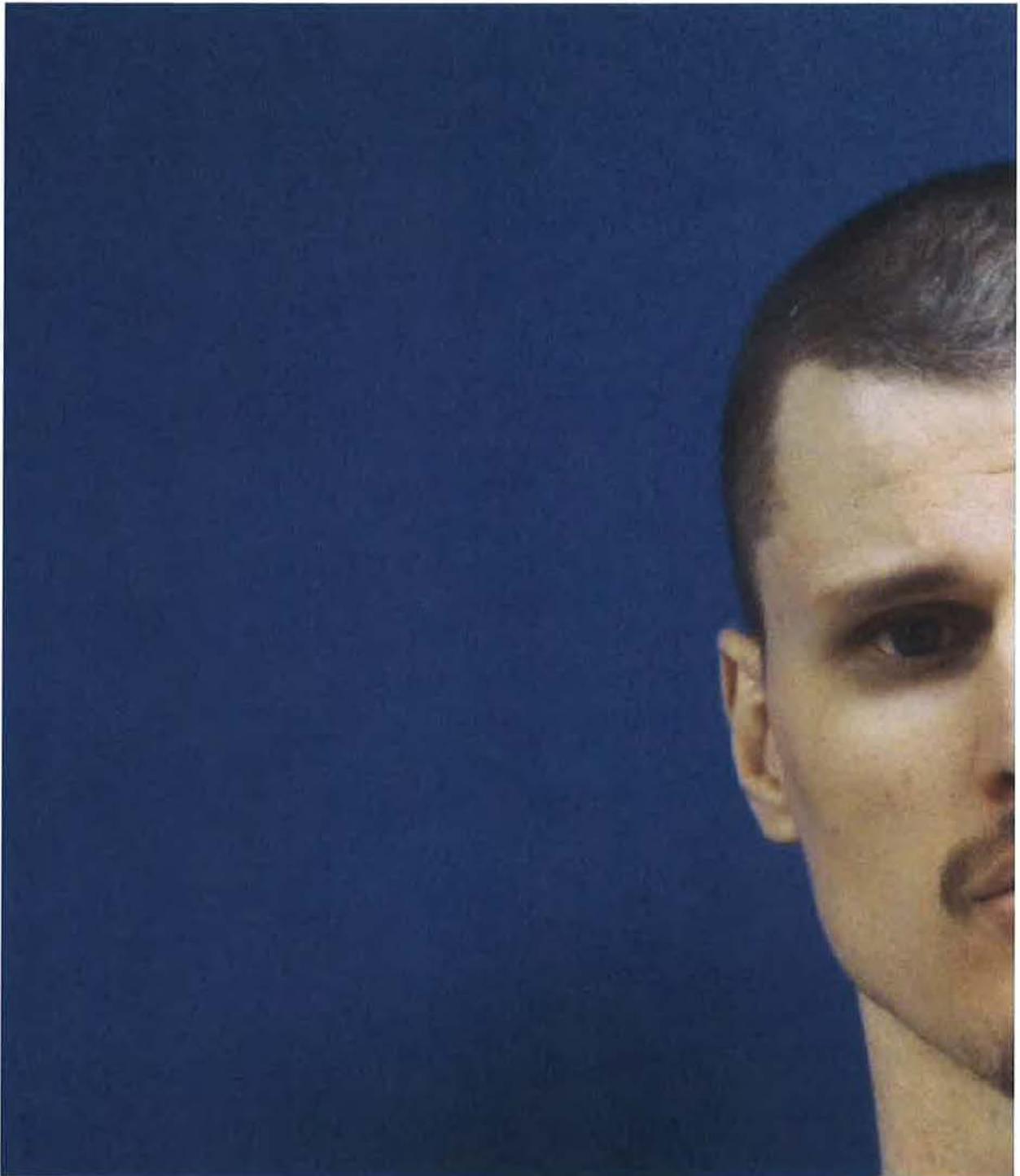
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## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Russ Winkler  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 24, 2021 4:36 PM  
**To:** Joshua J. Melton  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:30:32 PM CST  
**To:** Russ Winkler <Russ.Winkler@tn.gov>  
**Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement**

You may want to forward up the chain.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andy Davis <ADAVIS@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:28:22 PM CST  
**To:** Ray Crouch <wrcrouch@tndagc.org>, Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Threats to law enforcement**

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Christopher Lashlee <clashlee@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 24, 2021 at 4:26:13 PM CST  
**To:** All Sheriffs Office <AllSheriffsOffice@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Subject: Threats to law enforcement**

Today we received several phone patches through dispatch and through the jail where individuals are making threats against Law Enforcement officers. These threats are stemming from the arrest of Joshua Garton and the posts he had put on social media. There is a group that calls themselves "The Watch Dog" and another individual by the name of William R. Lord that are making threats towards us. They stated that it doesn't matter if we are in uniform or not that we better

watch our backs and that they would rather take care of us from a distance. Be Vigilant and watch your six.

Cpl. Lashlee

---

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## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Russ Winkler  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 23, 2021 6:45 PM  
**To:** Leslie Earhart  
**Subject:** Re: FYI - Dickson County case

10-4

On Jan 23, 2021, at 5:30 PM, Leslie Earhart <Leslie.Earhart@tn.gov> wrote:

Good evening,

I'm passing this article along in case you havent seen it.  
I just wanted to make you aware.

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/lawandcrime.com/crazy/constitutionally-illiterate-tennessee-authorities-arrest-man-for-posting-an-anti-police-meme-on-social-media/amp/>

Take care,  
Leslie

## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Joe Craig  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 5:37 PM  
**To:** Russ Winkler  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Sheet

Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 22, 2021, at 5:31 PM, Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Pentecost <apentecost@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 22, 2021 at 5:30:35 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Sheet

Here you go sir. Let me know if you need anything else.

Corporal Andrew Pentecost  
Badge# [REDACTED]  
2nd Shift Corrections  
Dickson County Sheriff's Department  
146 County Jail Drive  
Charlotte, TN 37036  
Work: (615) 789-4109  
Cell: [REDACTED]

---

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your system.

All Email Scanned by Barracuda Spam / Virus Filter

<Joshua Garton Intake Sheet.pdf>

## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Josh DeVine  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 7:06 PM  
**To:** Joe Craig; Russ Winkler  
**Cc:** Ray Crouch (wrcrouch@tndagc.org)  
**Subject:** TBI News Release - Dickson County - Joshua Garton  
**Attachments:** 1-22-21 Dickson Harassment (Joshua Garton).pdf; Joshua Garton.PNG

### **LYLES MAN ARRESTED, CHARGED WITH DOCTORING & POSTING HARASSING PHOTOGRAPH**

**DICKSON COUNTY** – Special Agents from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, working alongside investigators from the Dickson Police Department, have arrested and charged a Lyles man accused of manufacturing and disseminating a harassing photograph on social media.

At the request of 23<sup>rd</sup> District Attorney General Ray Crouch, TBI Agents began investigating the origin of a photograph that depicted individuals desecrating the grave of a deceased local law enforcement officer, Sgt. Daniel Baker of the Dickson County Sheriff's Office. Agents subsequently visited Baker's gravesite this morning and determined the photograph was digitally manufactured. Further investigative efforts led to the identification of Joshua Andrew Garton (DOB 1-31-92) as the individual who manufactured the image and distributed it on social media.

This afternoon, Agents arrested Garton and charged him with one count of Harassment and booked him into the Dickson County Jail where, because of this charge and other, unrelated legal issues, he was being held on a \$76,000 bond.

###



**Josh DeVine** | Communications Director  
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation  
901 R.S. Gass Boulevard  
Nashville, TN 37216  
**OFFICE:** (615) 744-4295

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## **Heather Thorne**

---

**From:** Joe Craig  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 5:32 PM  
**To:** Russ Winkler  
**Cc:** Nathan Neese  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Sheet  
**Attachments:** Joshua Garton Intake Sheet.pdf

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Pentecost <apentecost@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 22, 2021 at 5:30:35 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Sheet

Here you go sir. Let me know if you need anything else.

Corporal Andrew Pentecost  
Badge# [REDACTED]  
2nd Shift Corrections  
Dickson County Sheriff's Department  
146 County Jail Drive  
Charlotte, TN 37036  
Work: (615) 789-4109  
Cell: [REDACTED]

---

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## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Joe Craig  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 5:34 PM  
**To:** Russ Winkler  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Photo

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Andrew Pentecost <apentecost@dicksoncounty.net>  
**Date:** January 22, 2021 at 5:33:05 PM CST  
**To:** Joe Craig <Joe.Craig@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Joshua Garton Intake Photo

Corporal Andrew Pentecost  
Badge# [REDACTED]  
2nd Shift Corrections  
Dickson County Sheriff's Department  
146 County Jail Drive  
Charlotte, TN 37036  
Work: (615) 789-4109  
Cell: [REDACTED]

---

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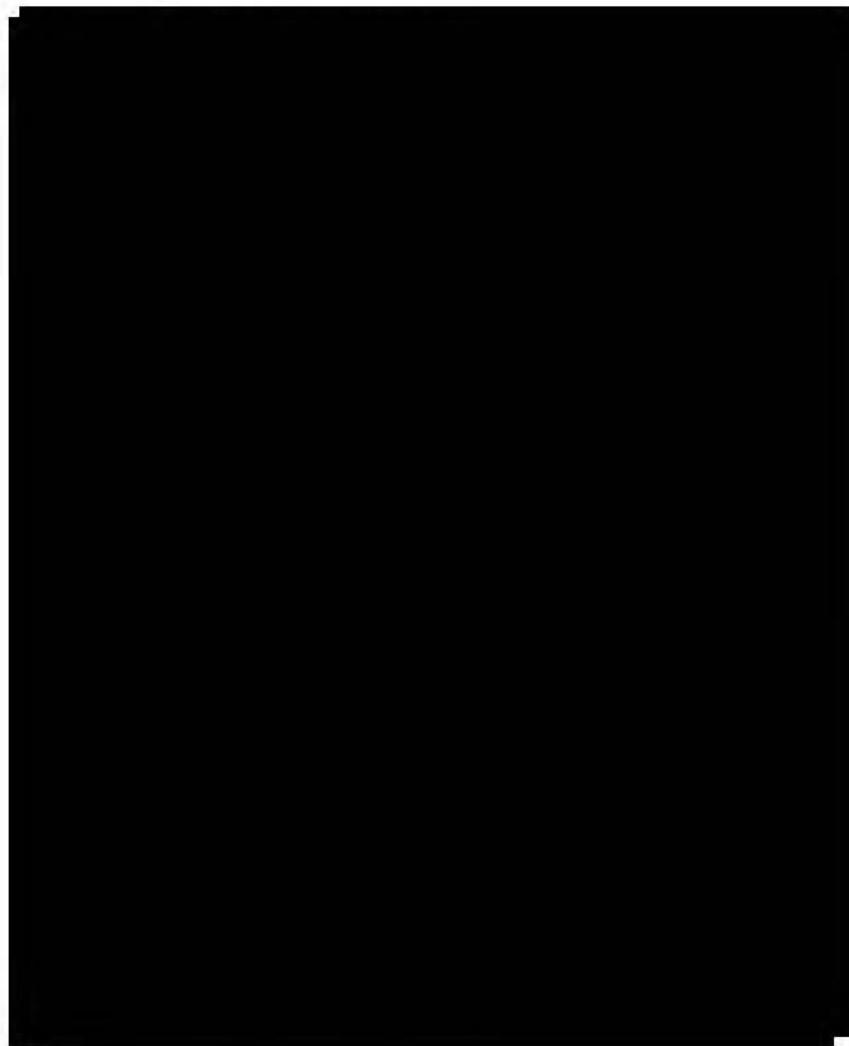
All Email Scanned by Barracuda Spam / Virus Filter

&lt; 128



2 People

Fri, Jan 22, 5:04 PM



Josh Devine



Thanks, Russ. Does Joe have a mug, by chance.

Josh Melton



Thank you

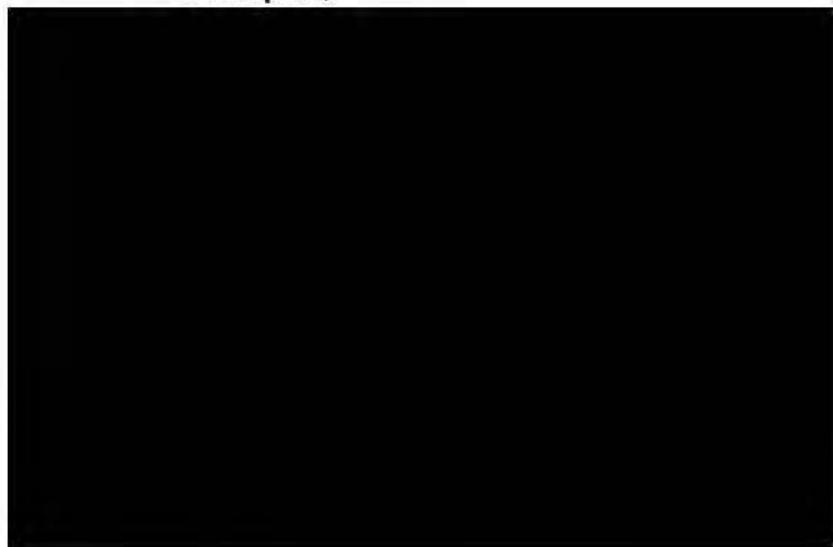
Josh Devine



&lt; 128



2 People &gt;



Josh Devine



**Thanks, Russ. Does Joe have a mug, by chance.**

Josh Melton



**Thank you**

Josh Devine



**Sent you both a draft of the release if you wouldn't mind to take a quick look. Tried to keep it sterile.**



**I added a mention of Dickson Police, since we worked with them on it.** 



## Heather Thorne

---

**From:** Russ Winkler  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 10:49 AM  
**To:** Susan Niland  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] NC5 Question

We just got the request.

On Jan 22, 2021, at 10:48 AM, Susan Niland <Susan.Niland@tn.gov> wrote:

Hey Russ,

We've had a couple media inquiries asking whether this is anything we've been requested to get involved in? Not sure what that would be?

Thanks, Susan

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** WTVF Newsroom <newsroom@newschannel5.com>  
**Date:** January 22, 2021 at 10:31:49 AM CST  
**To:** TBI Media <TBI.Media@tn.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NC5 Question

Hello,

Has the TBI been requested to investigate an image posted on Facebook of two individuals urinating on Dickson Co. Sgt. Daniel Bakers grave?

<image.png>

Thank you,  
Emerald

*Assignment Desk*  
WTVF-TV NewsChannel 5 Network  
474 James Robertson Pkwy  
Nashville, TN 37201  
615.248.5281  
Follow us on Twitter at **@NCS**

Scripps Media, Inc., certifies that its advertising sales agreements do not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity. All advertising sales agreements contain nondiscrimination clauses.

128



2 People &gt;

iMessage

Fri, Jan 22, 11:43 AM

Josh Devine

**Sent you a brief statement for review. Tried to keep it no nonsense, but if you think we need to be more strongly worded, let me know...**



**39-17-308 (4) (a)**

**(4) Communicates with another person by any method described in subdivision (a)(1), without legitimate purpose:**

**(A) (i) With the malicious intent to frighten, intimidate or cause emotional distress; or**

**(ii) In a manner the defendant knows, or reasonably should know, would frighten, intimidate or cause emotional distress to a similarly situated person of reasonable sensibilities; and**

Josh Devine

**Thanks. Sent a revised statement proposal to you**



&lt; 128



2 People &gt;

**39-17-308 (4) (a)**

**(4) Communicates with another person by any method described in subdivision (a)(1), without legitimate purpose:**

**(A) (i) With the malicious intent to frighten, intimidate or cause emotional distress; or**

**(ii) In a manner the defendant knows, or reasonably should know, would frighten, intimidate or cause emotional distress to a similarly situated person of reasonable sensibilities; and**



**Thanks. Sent a revised statement proposal to you both. Let me know what you think when you have a chance.**

Fri, Jan 22, 3:20 PM

They have identified the person who posted that they have interviewed him and he confessed. They are transporting him to booking



Message



&lt; 128



2 People &gt;

Fri, Jan 22, 3:20 PM

They have identified the person who posted that they have interviewed him and he confessed. They are transporting him to booking now and we're going to book him in for harassment. As soon as I get more details on his name and his descriptors I'll get that to you.

Josh Melton

J

Ok thank you. Can I call you or are you tied up?

FaceTime  
Call Ended

You can call

Fri, Jan 22, 5:04 PM

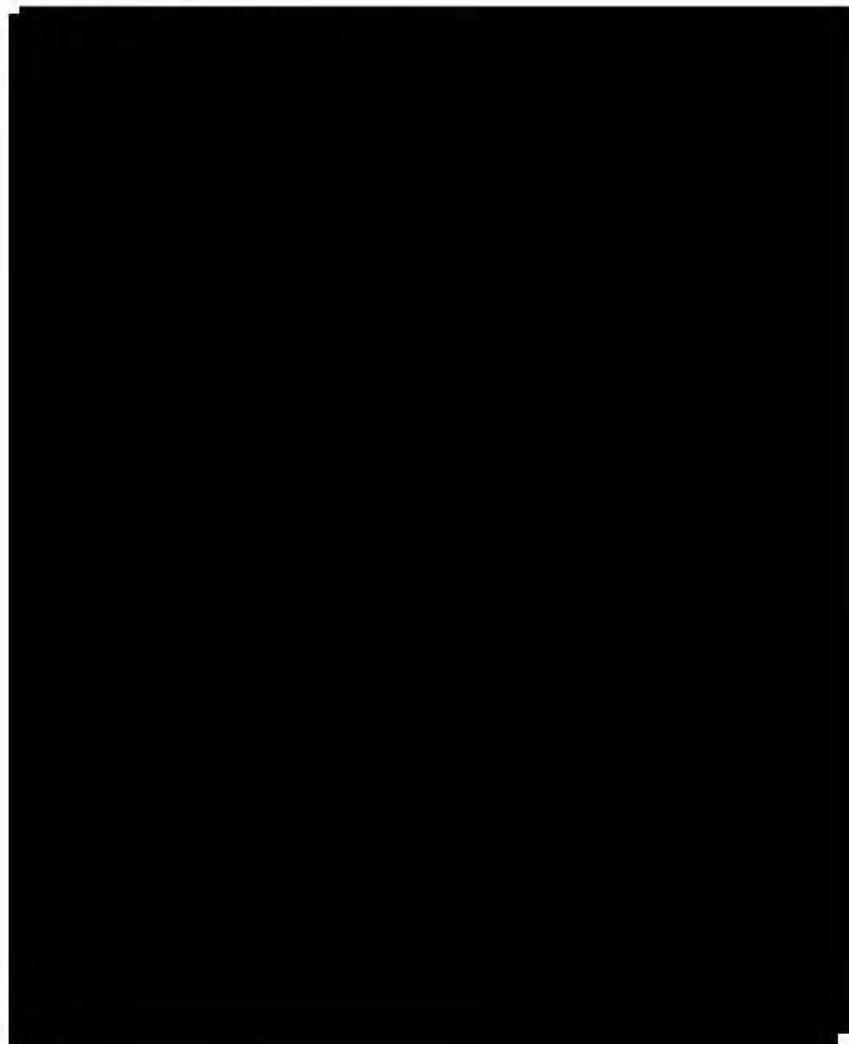


&lt; 128



2 People

Fri, Jan 22, 5:04 PM



Josh Devine



Thanks, Russ. Does Joe have a mug, by chance.

Josh Melton



Thank you

Josh Devine



&lt; 128



2 People &gt;



Josh Devine



**Thanks, Russ. Does Joe have a mug, by chance.**

Josh Melton



**Thank you**

Josh Devine

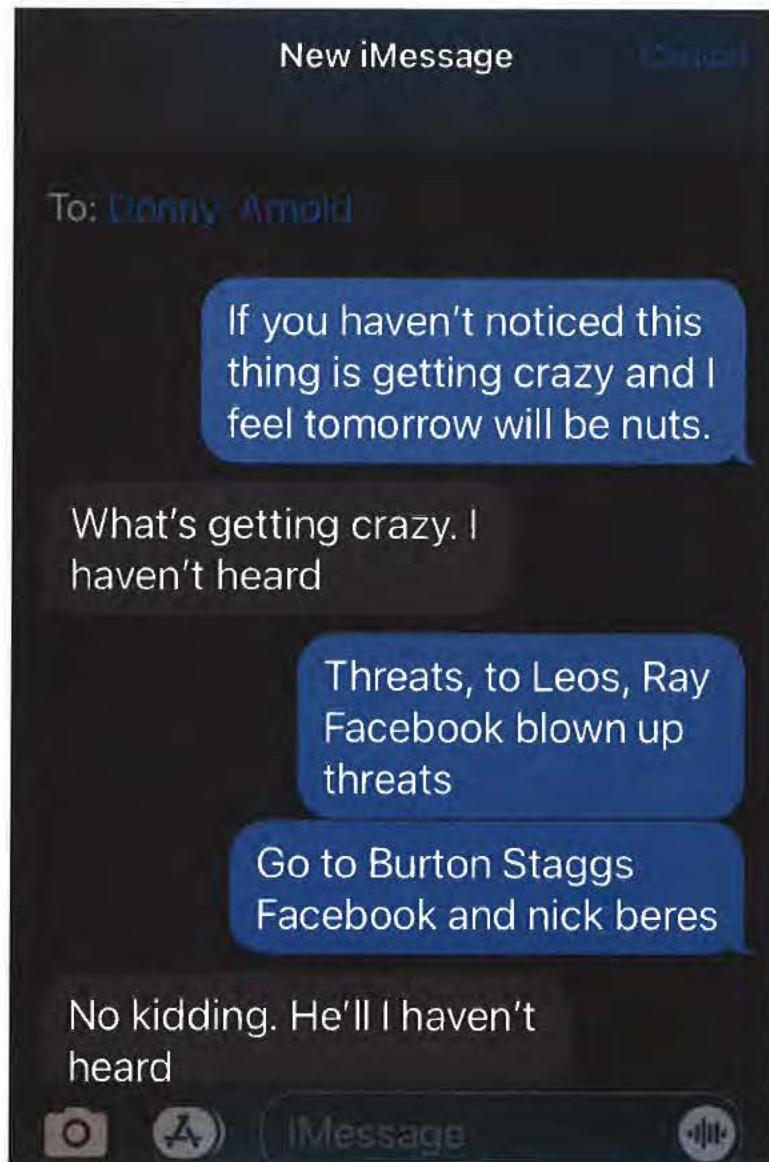


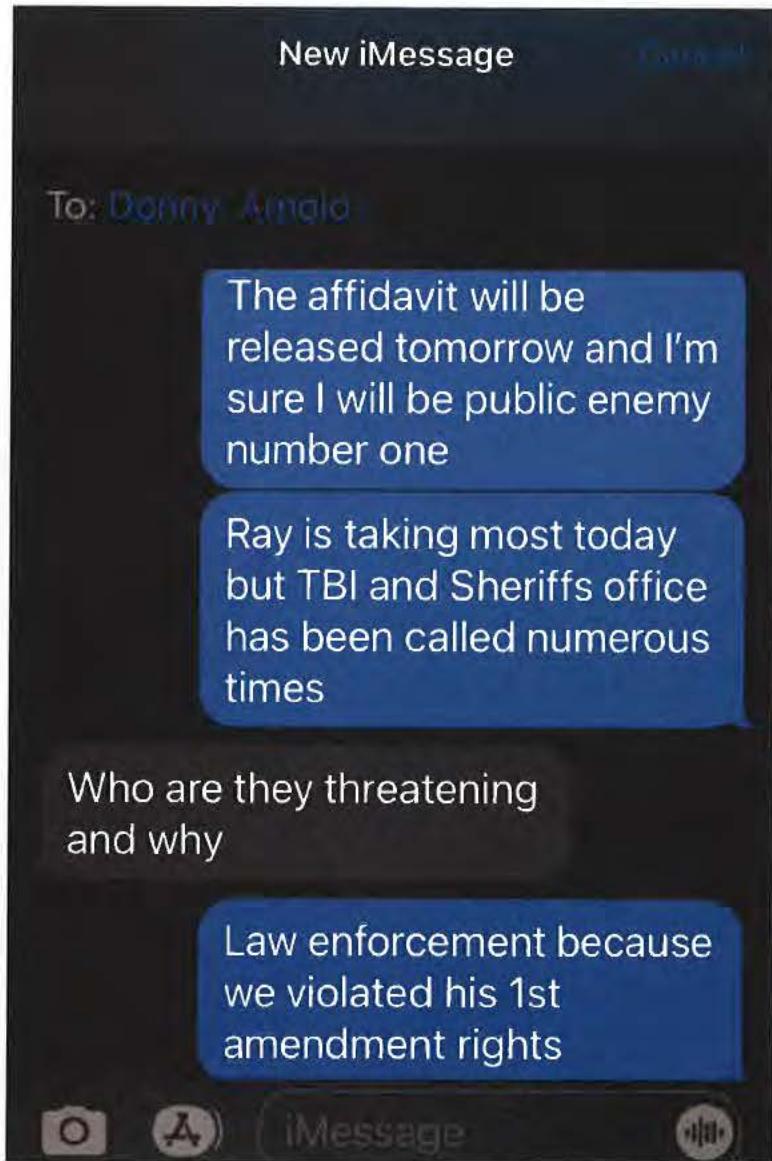
**Sent you both a draft of the release if you wouldn't mind to take a quick look. Tried to keep it sterile.**



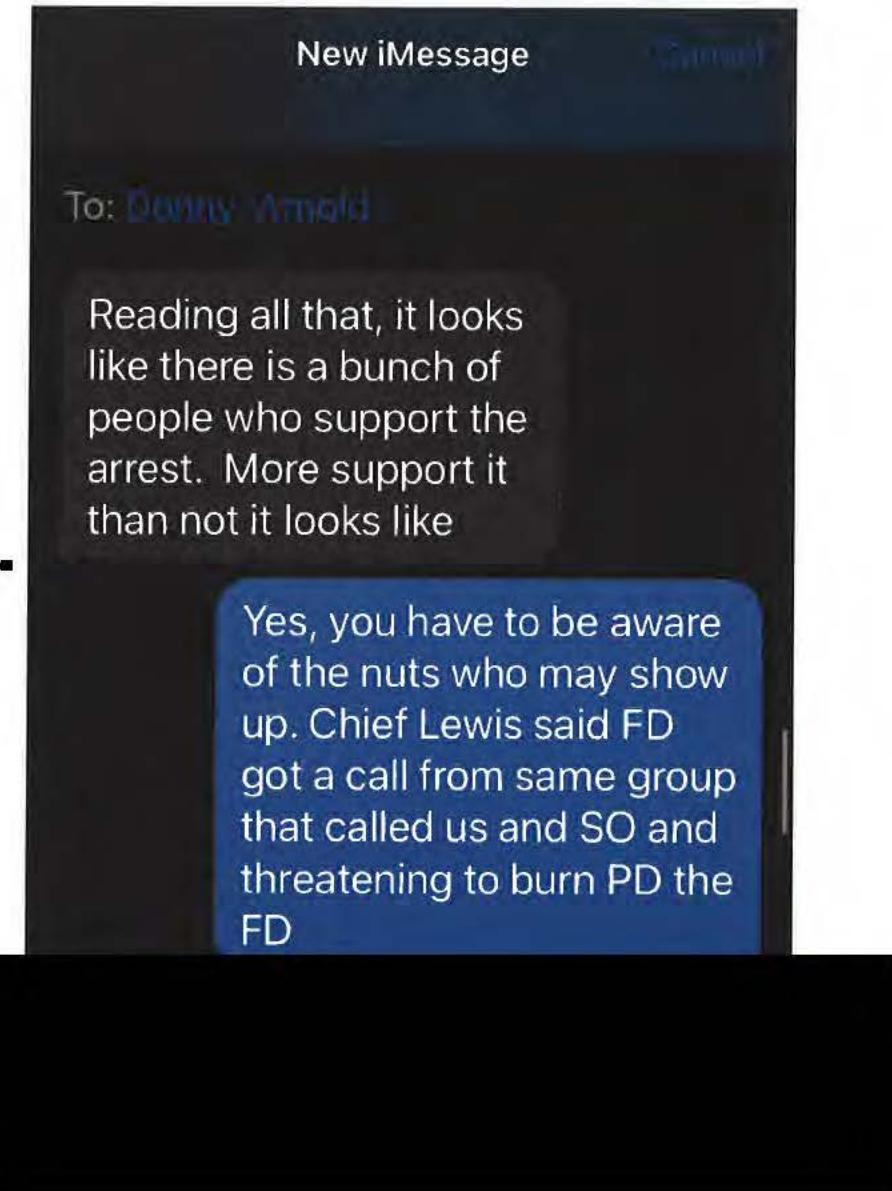
**I added a mention of Dickson Police, since we worked with them on it.** 

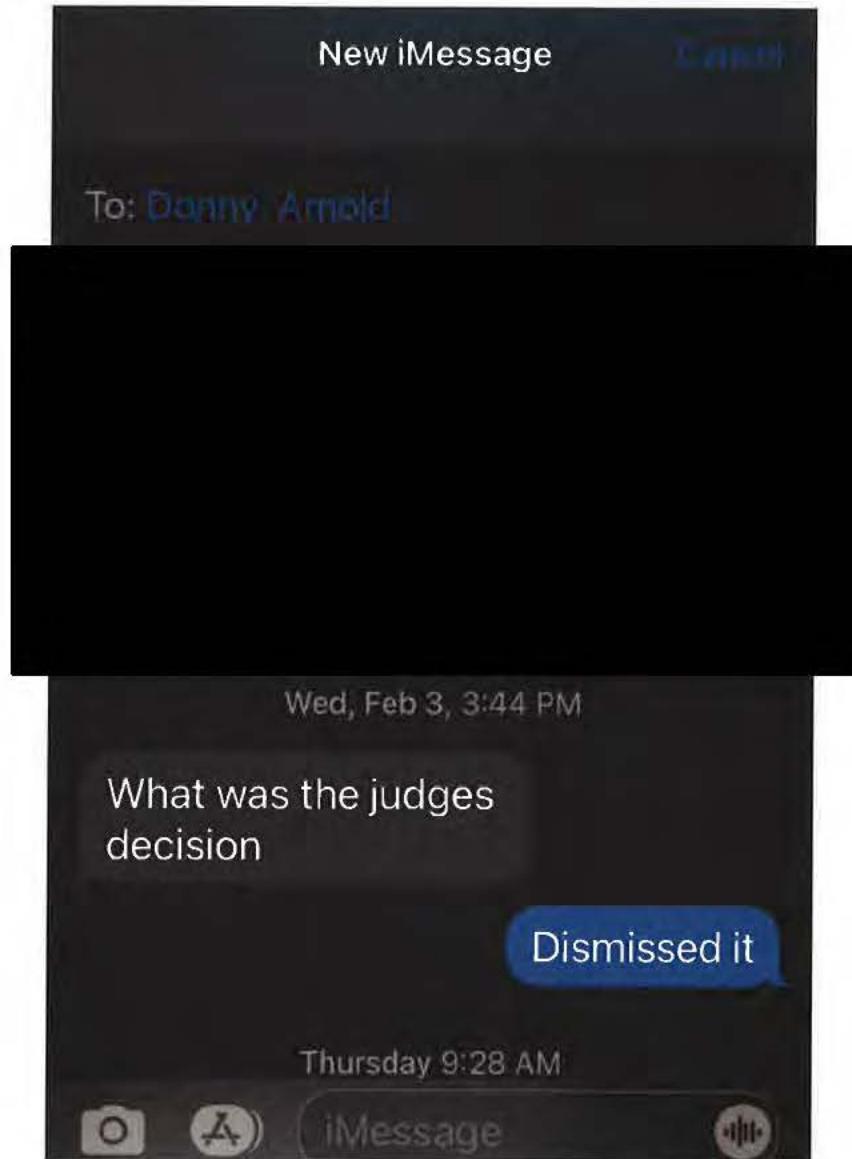












## New iMessage

To: *Craig (Amm)*

Thursday 9:28 AM

### ATTORNEY.

You may recall the controversial case from last month:  
A man was accused of manufacturing and  
disseminating a harassing photograph on social media.  
The image showed the desecration of the grave of  
Dickson County Sheriff's Sgt. Daniel Baker who was  
killed in the line of duty.  
TBI agents visited the gravesite and determined the  
photograph was digitally manufactured.  
Still 23rd District Attorney General Ray Crouch had  
Joshua Garton arrested and charged with a crime.  
Garton's lawyer today argued his arrest was a clear  
violation of his 1st Amendment right of free speech.  
The General Sessions judge today heard arguments  
from both sides and agreed.  
While the court conceded the image was hurtful  
disturbing and tasteless, the judge dismissed the case  
as protected under Garton's right to freedom of  
expression under the 1st Amendment.  
Garton spent ten days in jail waiting for his day in court.  
And his lawyer says the district attorney may now face  
a federal civil rights lawsuit for wrongful arrest.  
MORE TO COME ON THIS STORY.



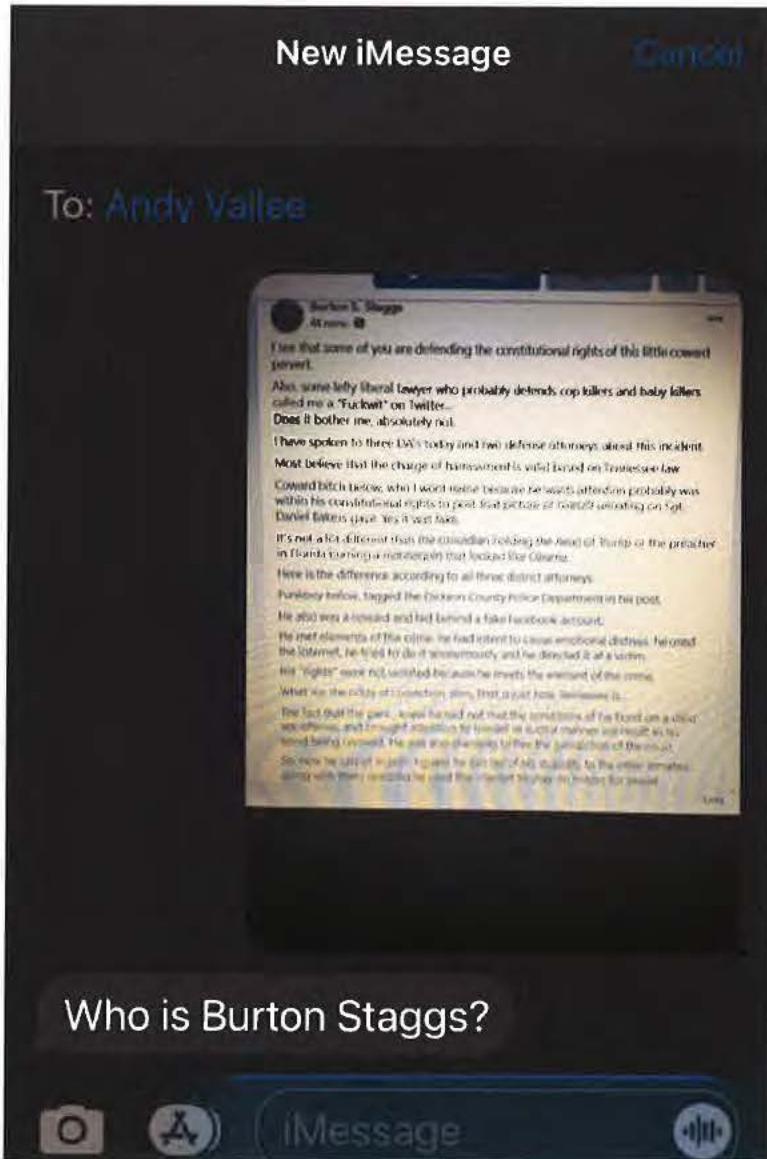
Did craig say it was a 1st



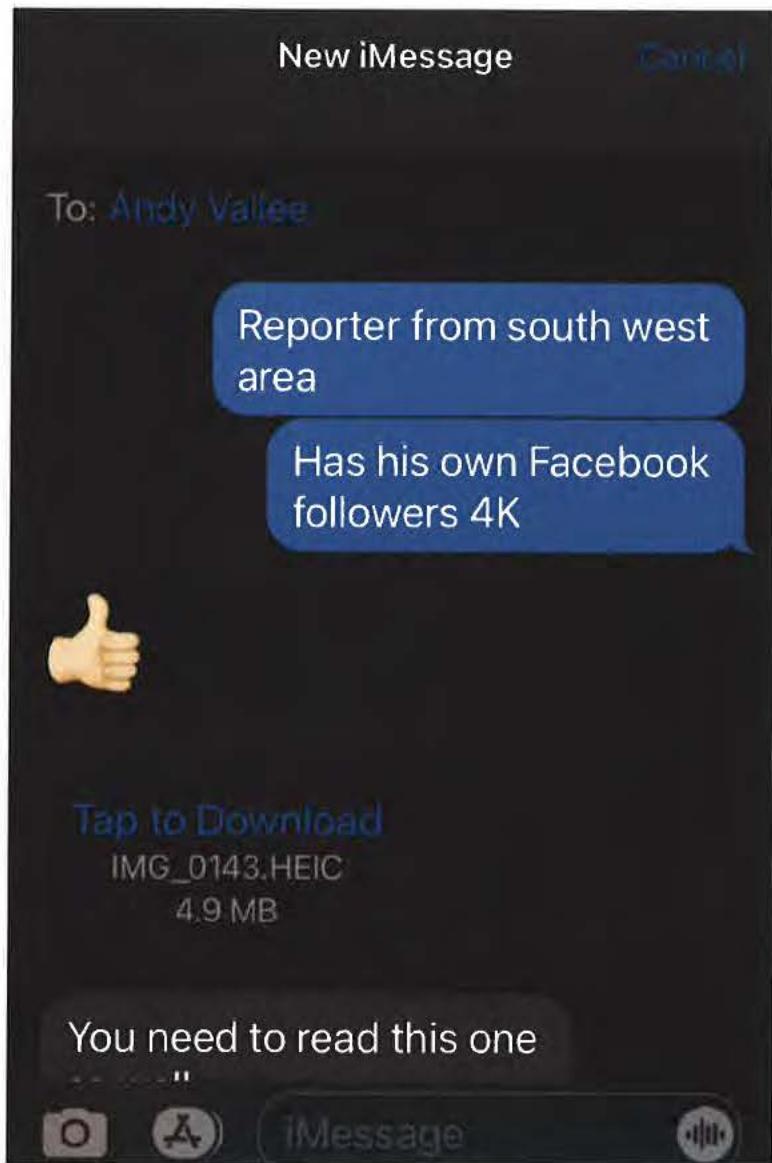
iMessage







Who is Burton Staggs?



New iMessage

Compose

To: [Andy Vallee](#)

I'm going to Dickson PD  
first thing in the morning  
and get copies of  
interview then headed to  
Charlotte to Ray's office,  
he's been receiving  
threats and lectures from  
annoying Facebook mob

Bet you are glad I signed  
the warrant

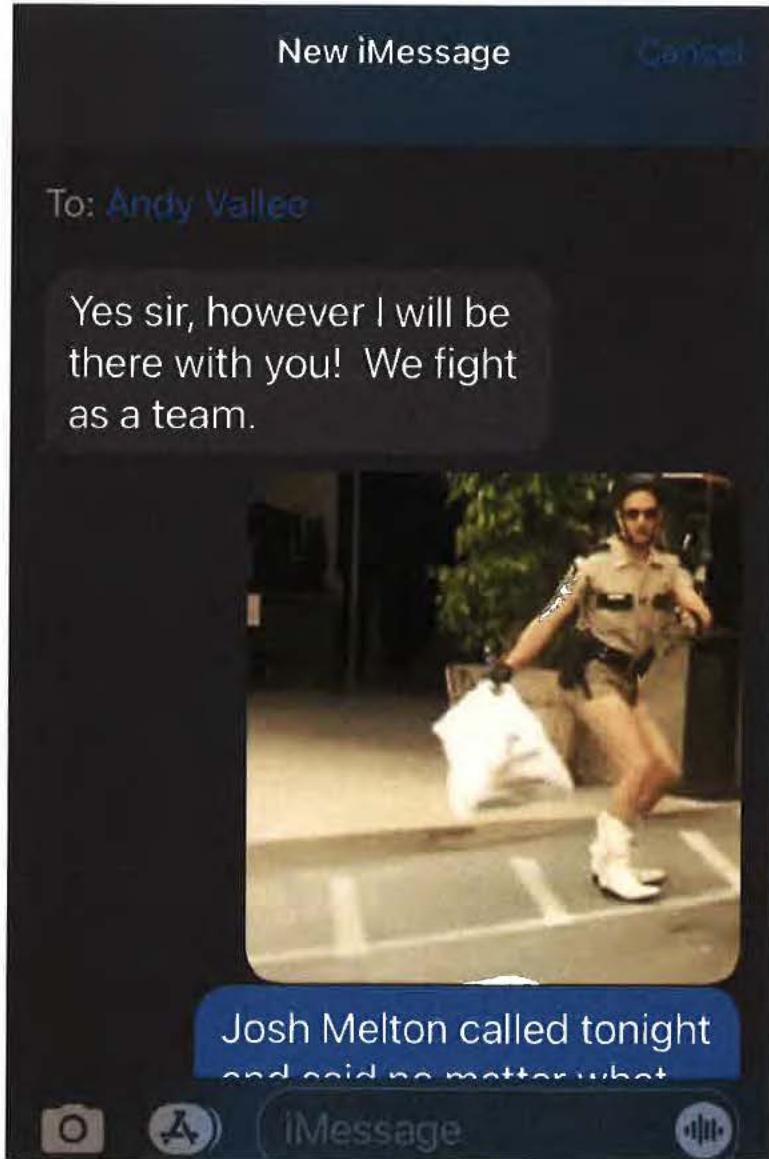
My anonymity will  
disappear tomorrow

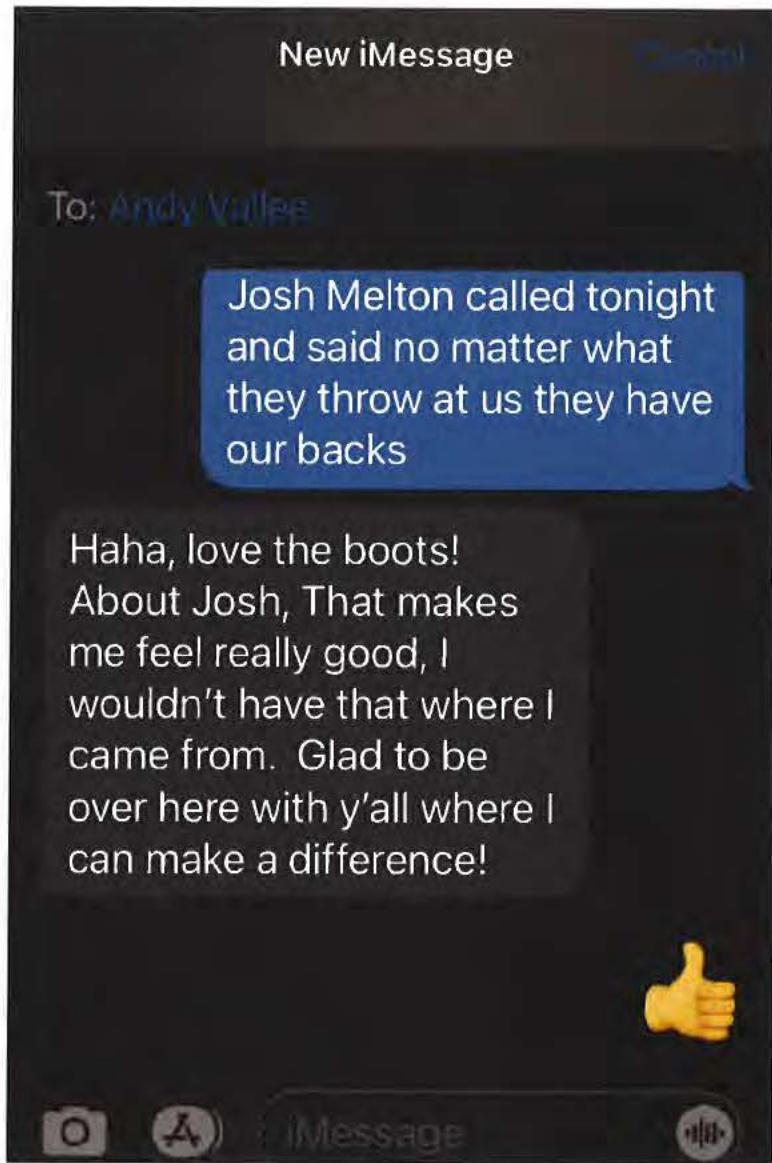
Yes sir, however I will be



iMessage











## New iMessage

Cancel

To: Brad Nealon, David Rausch

Sat, Jan 23, 6:29 PM

Just a heads-up. The Dickson County story is getting national attention and getting really ugly. I told Melton this, but we are referring questions about the legitimacy of the charge to the DAG. I'm trying to ignore a bulk of the ugly social media comments. 😭

David Rausch



We only investigate the incident. Charges come from the DA.

DR

That's what we are doing our best to reinforce. 👍



iMessage



Case 3:21-cv-00338



Document 1-1



Filed 04/27/21



Page 117 of 136 PageID #: 143



## New iMessage

Cancel

To: Brad Nealon, David Rausch

David Rausch

DR

We still need to educate everyone on what our role is. Although it is in our name.

Amen. Uphill climb.



David Rausch



DR

The trolls will do what trolls do. It appears they and the lawyers forget that there are surviving family members who have rights as well. My assessment is these are the same folks who called the insurrection at the Capitol free speech.

Brad Nealon



BN

The world needs a little love



iMessage



## New iMessage

Cancel

To: Brad Nealon, David Rausch

DR

Although it is in our name.

Amen. Uphill climb.



David Rausch



The trolls will do what trolls do. It appears they and the lawyers forget that there are surviving family members who have rights as well. My assessment is these are the same folks who called the insurrection at the Capitol free speech.

DR

Brad Nealon



BN

The world needs a little love

David Rausch



DR

Some Bernie Meme love!!



iMessage



JM

RW

2 People &gt;

iMessage

Fri, Jan 22, 11:43 AM

Sent you a brief statement for review. Tried to keep it no nonsense, but if you think we need to be more strongly worded, let me know...

Russ Winkler

39-17-308 (4) (a)

**(4)** Communicates with another person by any method described in subdivision (a)(1), without legitimate purpose:

**(A) (i)** With the malicious intent to frighten, intimidate or cause emotional distress; or

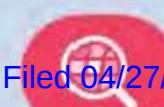
**(ii)** In a manner the defendant knows, or reasonably should know, would frighten, intimidate or cause emotional distress to a similarly situated person of reasonable sensibilities; and

RW

Thanks. Sent a revised



iMessage



JM

RW

2 People &gt;

Thanks. Sent a revised statement proposal to you both. Let me know what you think when you have a chance.

Fri, Jan 22, 3:20 PM

Russ Winkler

They have identified the person who posted that they have interviewed him and he confessed. They are transporting him to booking now and we're going to book him in for harassment. As soon as I get more details on his name and his descriptors I'll get that to you.

RW

Josh Melton

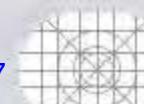
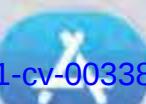
Ok thank you. Can I call you or are you tied up?

JM

Russ Winkler



iMessage





JM

RW

2 People &gt;

FaceTime  
Call Ended

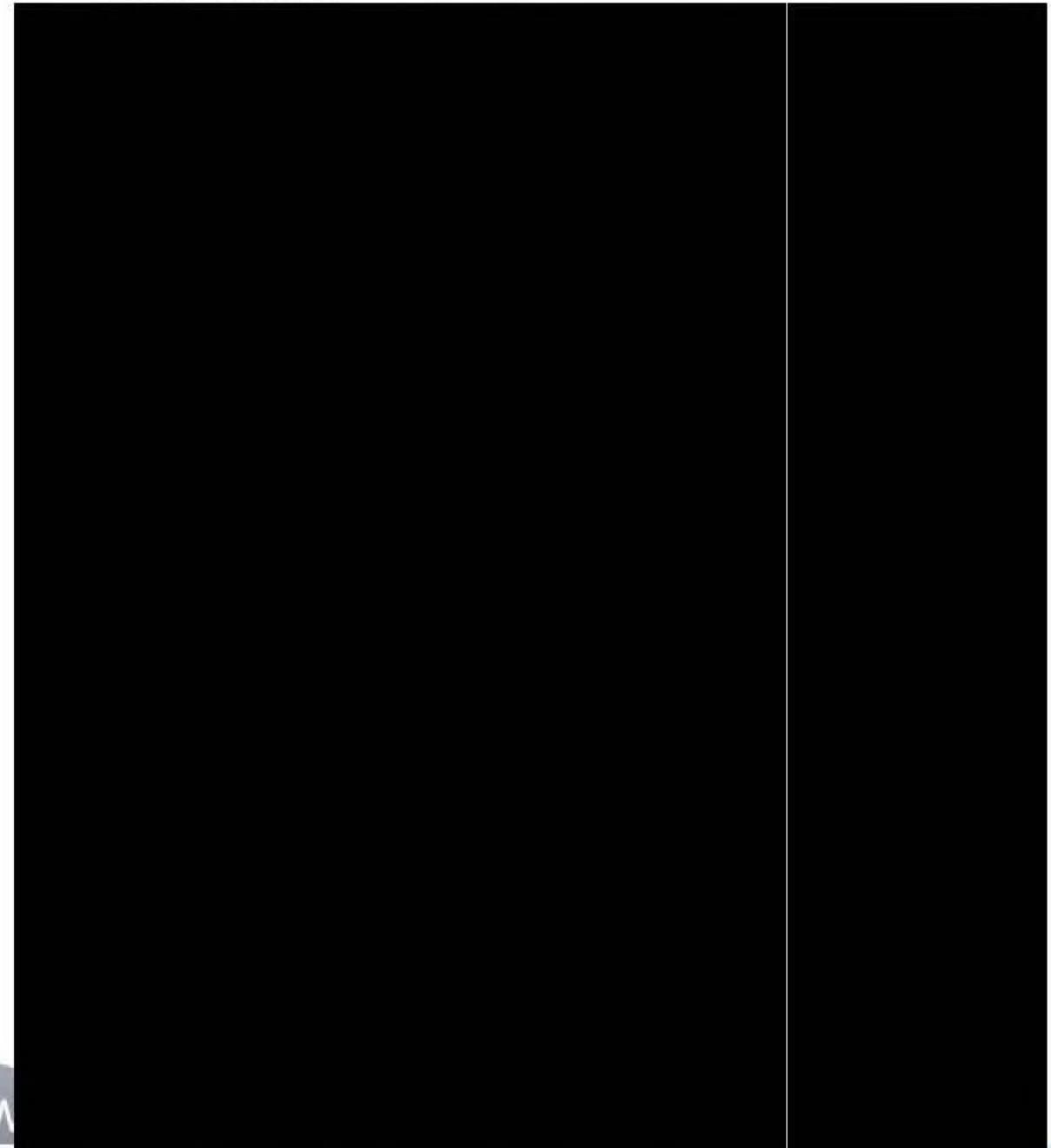
RW

RW

You can call

Fri, Jan 22, 5:04 PM

Russ Winkler



RW



iMessage



Case 3:21-cv-00338



Document 1-1



Filed 04/27/21



Page 122 of 136 PageID #: 148



JM

RW

2 People &gt;

RW

Thanks, Russ. Does Joe have a mug, by chance.

Josh Melton

JM

Thank you

Sent you both a draft of the release if you wouldn't mind to take a quick look. Tried to keep it sterile.

I added a mention of Dickson Police, since we worked with them on it. 



iMessage



Jan 24, 2021, 7:38 PM

<https://www.facebook.com/mike.altri>



Mike

Just showing my respect to deputy Daniel Baker  
from the #dicksoncountypolicedepartment



**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.



Mike

Fucking dumb asses lmfao taxpayers are gonna be real happy with you [in a couple of months](#)



\*\*

January 25, 2021 at 7:47 AM



next time instead of violating someone's first amendment rights and instead of having to pay them the minimum \$80k he will get from your dumbass actions, maybe hire someone like me that would tell you with rational non pork thinking that it was a bad move. now the dudes gonna get a payout and the taxpayers will be held respond for it. clown fucking organization y'all run

**January 25, 2021 at 11:20 AM**

Thanks for sharing your comments.

\*\*



**Winston**

<https://www.facebook.com/Ottothewatchdog>

A Tribute to Our Heros. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S\\_bUu009JyI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_bUu009JyI)

[Man Arrested for Offensive Facebook Post - Otto Calls - Dickson Tennessee - The Roof is on Fire](#)

[Well... the System isn't gonna FUCK itself...Dickson Police Department - \(615\) 446-5403 Tennessee cops' arrest of man over disrespectful photoshop draws wide ... youtube.com](#)

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.

Thanks for sharing. Hope you have a good day. Most sincerely, TBI Public Information Office



\*\*



**Travis**

come arrest me you pieces of shit, I want a settlement too

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing.

Sent by [Leslie Earhart](#)



**Travis**

Lol get a REAL job

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing.

Sent by [Leslie Earhart](#)



**Travis**

<https://www.facebook.com/mythiesis>

The TBI is a terroristic organization that infringes on the rights on the citizens of Tennessee.  
Please investigate.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.



\*\*

**Jan 25, 2021, 12:09 PM**



**Donovan**



**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.



**Donovan**



Now come arrest me, fascist piggy. I could use the lawsuit money.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing. Hope you have a good day.  
Sent by [Susan Rogers](#)

\*\*

**Jan 25, 2021, 2:06 PM**



**Donovan**

<https://www.facebook.com/donovan.whitford.9>

Hope you learn to read so you know what's in that Constitution you took an oath to uphold.



**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing.

Sent by [Leslie Earhart](#)



**Donovan**





You gonna' come arrest me now, pig?  
Or not?

Is that dead cop still dead by the way?



**Jan 25, 2021, 7:31 PM**



**Donovan**

fascist pigs



What's the matter, piggy? Why haven't you arrested me yet? Look how many counts you have of me breaking the law by posting the picture.









**Jan 25, 2021, 10:12 PM**

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing.

Sent by [Leslie Earhart](#)

**Jan 25, 2021, 11:36 PM**



**Donovan**

Funny how you'll arrest one person and thank another for the same picture.

**Jan 26, 2021, 8:48 AM**



**Donovan**

Nazi

**Jan 26, 2021, 10:31 AM**



**Donovan**



Why won't you arrest me for the same fucking image?  
I'm posting it everywhere



\*\*

**Jan 26, 2021, 9:18 AM**



**Michael**

<https://www.facebook.com/michaeljohngraz>

Wow, you guys really started your own shit show by violating the meme guys rights. I hope you lose your immunity and have to open your own wallets. The taxpayers shouldn't have to be responsible for your blatant disregard for the constitution.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Hi Michael, thanks for your message. We are not here right now and our account isn't monitored 24/7, but we'll get back to you soon!

**Jan 26, 2021, 10:55 AM**

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing. Hope you have a good day.



\*\*

**Jan 26, 2021, 4:42 PM**



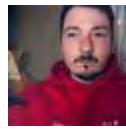
**Grayson**

<https://www.facebook.com/grayson.mcdonald.37>

Did you hapless assholes really arrest a man for a picture? I have the same picture I made of me pissing on the same CD cover with that dead officers head on it, PLEASE come arrest me for it, I'd like to be rich too. You guys are garbage butthurt snowflake oathbreakers. Get it together.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.



\*\*

**Jan 28, 2021, 10:27 AM**



**Michael**

<https://www.facebook.com/michael.masucci.96>

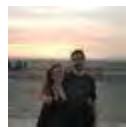
hello is it true that you're arresting people over memes now, I saw some memes I'd like someone arrested for

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing. Hope you have a good day.



Sent by [Susan Rogers](#)  
\*\*

**Feb 4, 2021, 6:30 AM**

**Mike**

<https://www.facebook.com/mike.methena>

Another agency full of NAZI TYRANT THUGS. Your agents violated the Wortmans Constitutional rights and your NAZI THUG director thinks that it's okay.

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for messaging us. We try to be as responsive as possible, but this account isn't monitored 24/7. We'll get back to you soon.

**Feb 4, 2021, 9:28 AM**

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Thanks for sharing. Hope you have a good day. Most sincerely, TBI Public Information Office  
\*\*